

Year 9 Curriculum Overview [2026-2027]
Subject Music

Autumn Term	Knowledge & Understanding			Literacy Skills Opportunities for developing literacy skills	Employability Skills [if any]	Assessment Opportunities
	Composites	Components [KEY concepts & subject specific vocab]	Formal Retrieval [if any]			
T1	How film music is created.	- The purpose of film music - Diegetic and non- diegetic sounds. - What a leitmotif is. - Thematic transformation	Music appraising tasks	Key vocab explained explicitly and then used throughout listening and practical work.	Planning Determination Cooperation	Performance of a film theme music
T1	To compose a gaming music piece.	- Why music is used in games - Gaming music history and its development - Gaming music techniques - How music creates atmosphere for scenarios and interest. - How gaming composers influence the musical elements.	Music appraising tasks	Key vocab explained explicitly and then used throughout listening and practical work.	Reasoning Commercial Awareness	Performing your gaming composition.
Catholicity across Music	Through reflective listening and discussion, students can explore how music can evoke deep emotions and provide comfort in music that gaming music illustrates throughout the game. This helps students appreciate music's potential for fostering growth.					

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Spring Term	Knowledge & Understanding			Literacy Skills Opportunities for developing literacy skills	Employability Skills [if any]	Assessment Opportunities
	Composites	Components [KEY concepts & subject specific vocab]	Formal Retrieval [if any]			
T2	What makes a good pop song	- Harmony and chords in popular music - How riffs are used and situated in popular songs.	Music appraising tasks	Key vocab explained explicitly and then used throughout listening and practical work.	Planning Determination Cooperation	Performing a pop song as an ensemble.

		- Features of a successful melody. - Structural elements of a popular song. - Textural elements of pop music.				
	Composing your own song	- Composing chords. - Composing appropriate chord patterns to match a mood. - Composing riffs to a chord pattern. - Techniques to write suitable lyrics - Composing suitable structure for a song.	Music appraising tasks	Key vocab explained explicitly and then used throughout listening and practical work.	Creativity Communication Self-discipline Teamwork Oracy Problem Solving	MCQ for declarative knowledge Ensemble performance of students' own song.
Catholicity across Music	Students can use composition as an avenue to express empathy, reflect on social issues, promote messages of kindness and respect. Writing lyrics that explore themes such as friendship, kindness or solidarity. Students are encouraged to use music as a positive force in the world and reflecting on the catholic values of empathy and compassion.					

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Summer Term	Knowledge & Understanding			Literacy Skills Opportunities for developing literacy skills	Employability Skills [if any]	Assessment Opportunities
	Composites	Components [KEY concepts & subject specific vocab]	Formal Retrieval [if any]			
T3	To analyse a classical piece of music.	- How accidentals are used. - Context of classical period. - Melodies of the classical period. - Accompaniment styles - Cadences	Music appraising tasks	Key vocab explained explicitly and then used throughout listening and practical work.	Independence Determination Cooperation	Solo performance of Fur Elise
	How to perform successfully as a group.	- Rehearsal techniques - How to communicate effectively - Choosing suitable pieces	Music appraising tasks	Key vocab explained explicitly and then used throughout listening and practical work.	Organisation Planning Cooperation Communication	Performance/presentation of a festival.
Catholicity across Music	Catholic teaching values the pursuit of excellence as a form of honouring one's gifts, but it also cautions against perfectionism. Students can be encouraged to strive for improvement and personal best in music while accepting that mistakes are part of the learning process, promoting both humility and resilience.					