



# MUSIC - YEAR 8

## Unit 1: Pop music – ‘Stand by Me’

Continuation of study of elements of music and performance skills with the main assessment performing the song **Stand by Me** with the full class and smaller groups. You will learn and develop these skills:

1. Direct extension of Y7 unit 4 in terms of structure and tasks.
2. Revisit instruments used in pop music with the intention of expanding our experiences through further exploration.
3. Build on prior knowledge of the elements of music and introducing more music specific key vocabulary.
4. Continue adding new rhythms in the rhythmic tasks. Ensemble skills, practice skills, melody, harmony, pulse/tempo, singing, playing riffs on keyboards. Ukulele and hand-held percussion extension, with a greater focus on more complex timing.

## Unit 3: Film Music 1 – Performance Unit

It is now time to start preparing for GCSE by looking at the importance of music in film. This unit is broken down into multiple sessions that look at a variety of genres of film. This unit will be assessed with solo tasks throughout the weeks as well as a focused group performance along with a clip from a movie.

1. Apply notation reading and keyboard skills to interchanging challenges - faster moving than ever before.
2. Development of music vocabulary to the world of film music.
3. Direct preparation of AOS 3 in GCSE music.
4. To expand on the role of a group leader and expand on the decision making that is beneficial for the success of a group and not an individual.

Texture, ensemble skills, notation, keyboard skills, rhythm, orchestral instruments, elements of music.

## Unit 5: Film Music 2 – Composition Unit

Let's build upon Film Music 1 and use music technology to compose our own music for film. This is a great unit to express your creativity and demonstrate your understanding of the music for film. You will spend the unit working on solo tasks that will lead up to a solo composition using music technology.

1. Introduction of using music technology as a way of composing.
2. Development of music vocabulary in the world of computer music.
3. Direct preparation of AOS 3 in GCSE music and IT skills required.

Notation, rhythm writing, pitch notation, Film Score, major and minor scales, structure, samples, audio and video files. Composition skills.

## Unit 2: Music for Occasions 2

Expand upon your knowledge of staff notation by decoding the music for Jingle Bell Rock. This will be the most technically demanding piece to date with more variations of rhythms and complex hands-together techniques on the keyboard. Your solo performance will be on the keyboard and your group performance will require you to learn more demanding Ukulele chords and combine instruments in a much more creative way than ever before.

1. This unit is a direct extension of the Music For Occasions unit in year 7.
2. To build upon the key musical knowledge that was delivered in unit 1.
3. Clear and distinctive focus on expanding knowledge and application of traditional notation, as well as lead sheet notation.
4. Connect practical skills to more traditional notation reading and understanding.

Reading musical notation, keyboard skills hands-together, pitch, rhythm, practice skills, solo performance skills and listening assessment preparation.

## Unit 4: Music Through Time 1

Music has a rich history that cannot be ignored. We will look at key composers throughout time. Each lesson will be set up with a short video introduction provided by the BBC and hosted by a different celebrity. The tasks will include listening questions and performances. The lessons are compact and move quickly so 100% engagement is required for success.

1. Introduction and study of the world of Classical music.
2. Introduction of 5 key classical composers.
3. Exploring composition through a variety of different tasks and assignments.
4. Continue adding new rhythms in the rhythmic tasks –as well as further study of different time signatures.

Ensemble skills, other instrumental skills, practice skills, elements of music, listening assessment preparation.

## Unit 6: Blues

This is a celebration of your musical journey in Year 8. In this unit you will get the opportunity to display everything you have learnt as well as gaining new skills along the way. You will learn the importance and influence of Blues music through a journey into the history of slavery and the use of key Blues features in modern music. Your main assessments will be a solo and group performance of the Jackass Blues, including an improvised solo.

1. Introduction to Blues as a genre.
2. The influence of Blues music in different genres.
3. Development of improvisation.
4. Celebration of year 8 music through an assessed class performance that has been carefully selected to display key concepts learnt in the previous units.

Improvisation, notation, performance, creative thinking skills, listening assessment preparation and conducting a large group.

