



The Arts, PE & Technology Faculty

Music

Subject Intent:

In Music, pupils will develop vocal, instrumental and computer-based (music sequencing) performance skills. They will develop composing techniques, beginning with traditional fundamentals in the use of music notation and then developing these into modern-day techniques in applied scenarios, such as producing their own tracks using industry level digital audio workstation (DAW) software. Listening skills are developed through the identification of instruments and their technical and expressive roles in a piece of music across the styles pupils will study. Music has been a major feature in human societies across the world since the dawn of time and pupils will explore the culture, tradition and historical context surrounding a variety of musical styles. Modern-day practices and the features of today's Music Industry also feature across the music curriculum.

Course Overview:

Key stage 3

Year 7:

1. Sister Act - Class Choir
2. Keyboard - Learning the language (Music Notation)
3. Composing chords and bass lines
4. Sequencing a famous song
5. Instruments & more instruments! (Be a film music composer & conductor!)
6. Samba! (Whole Class drumming workshop)

Year 8:

1. (It's) All 'bout Rhythm (Drum Kit and composing)
2. Rock Anthems - the Guitar
3. It's a tune – Compose a song - EDM style
4. Indian Music – Indian Classical & Bhangra
5. The Blues & 1950s Rock 'n' Roll
6. Be a 'Soundie' - Live, DJ and DAW mixing

Year 9:

1. Reggae - Caribbean music
2. I, Producer - Sequence a track from the charts
3. Band Skills - drums, pop keyboard and more.
4. RE-MIX! - Create a re-mixed of a song
5. Battle of the bands
6. Radio Broadcaster (Plan, collaborate and broadcast your own radio show)

Course Detail:

A list the key content students will cover, broken down into these headings

Key stage 4**Years 10 and 11:****BTEC Music and Music Technology**

Mandatory units	Unit Name	Summary
Exam paper	The Music Industry	60-minute examination worth 50 marks. The paper consists of a variety of question types, including objective questions, short-answer questions and one extended writing opportunity at the end of the examination paper.
Coursework	Managing a Music Product	Organising a music concert or recording
Specialist units	Unit Name	Summary
Coursework	Music Sequencing	Creating a music performance using music creation software – by composing original or recreating existing music.
Coursework	Music Live Sound / Recording	Involves the recording of their own and/or fellow students' performances.

Enrichment Opportunities

Pupils have many opportunities to get further involved in the music making they experience in curriculum time outside of lessons in our programme of lunch time 'drop in' clubs and scheduled afterschool rehearsals. Pupils can choose to do keyboard, guitar, drums, choir and music technology clubs.

Pupils perform in our annual events comprising of Open Evening, awards evenings, Christmas Carol Concert, 'TomFest' Live Stage at the summer festival and more.

Music at St. Thomas More plays a key role in the Catholic life and liturgical calendar of our school. Pupils perform and lead worship music as soloists, in small groups, in the STM Choir and Orchestra and also in the role of live sound technicians. Over 70 pupils perform in our Easter Production depicting the Stations of the Cross through music, drama and narration.

Useful links

Bandlab for Education is an online recording and sequencing software which students will log into in their lessons just like a Google Classroom but for producing their own music.

Musictheory.net will enable students to revise, and study further outside of lessons, music notation principles. The site is free to use and includes lessons pages and tests.

BBC Bitesize Key Stage 3 can be reached using the following link:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/zmsvr82>

Google Chrome Music Lab which offers an online music sequencer for making your own music.

The site can be reached using the following link: <https://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com/>

Ableton 'The Playground' allows you to create your own drum patterns and more in an online music sequencer. The site can be reached using the following link:

<https://learningmusic.ableton.com/the-playground.html>

MuseScore is a free to download music notation software programme. Think of it as a 'Microsoft Word' for writing your own music in a professional way:

<https://musescore.org/en/download>