

KS4 Curriculum Intent for BTEC Music.

At Dixons Cottingley we develop students to lead successful and happy lives and make a positive contribution to their community. Our curriculum in each year is designed to provide experiences, opportunities, knowledge and skills that enrich and challenge our students. We understand that the curriculum is key to determining the life chances and choices for our students and therefore we will not compromise on providing the very best. We achieve this in Music through the below:

By the end of KS4 students at Dixons Cottingley studying Music will be exposed to the following:

- Performance skills development.
- Theory of Music.
- BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts (Music).

By the end of KS4 students at Dixons Cottingley studying music will be taught the following skills:

- Ability to read stave notation, chord diagrams and guitar/bass/drum TAB with increasing fluency.
- Ability to reflect on their own practice and develop transferable skills through group and solo performance tasks that will be useful in the wider world of work.
- An understanding of music theory up to and including grade 3 ABRSM standard.
- An understanding of job roles within the music industry, including knowledge of the skills and qualifications needed to gain employment in the industry.
- An understanding of the organisations involved in putting on live events, including an understanding of health and safety in live events, talent sourcing, copyright and workers/musicians unions.

In order to truly appreciate the subject and create deep schema, Music has been sequenced with the following rationale:

The purpose of the music curriculum is to build on any previous knowledge and skills through performing, composing and listening. They will develop their instrumental and vocal skills and explore how a variety of cultures have shaped a wide range of musical styles and traditions. They will deepen their understanding of 'how' by playing with accuracy and expression, improvise and compose using different structures, scales and tonalities, explore a range of notations and develop a deeper understanding of a wide range of key musicians and composers through listening and appraising. Students will develop confidence and resilience as well as self-discipline and teamwork.

- Key skills & concepts of learning
- Develop knowledge and understanding
- Perform, compose and listen to music
- Develop instrumental and vocal skills
- Explore cultures, musical styles and traditions
- Play with accuracy & expression
- Develop confidence, resilience, self-discipline and teamwork

The Music curriculum at Cottingley has been influenced by:

- The performance skills unit has been influenced by Lucy Green's work on informal learning in the music classroom and how popular musicians learn. This research eventually led to the creation of Musical Futures, a style of teaching that underpins much of the teaching within the department.
- The theoretical knowledge that is expected of students is in line with that expected of KS4 pupils according to the new Model Music Curriculum. This level of theory is roughly in line with the ABRSM grade 3 music theory syllabus. Students will then progress to grades 4 and 5 during year 10 and will have the option to continue to grade 8. Higher grades (grade 6 and above) earn students UCAS points that can be placed on college/university applications.

Our Music curriculum ensures that social disadvantage is addressed through:

- Disadvantaged students following the same curricular pathway as it is important that they are provided with access to the same body of both practical and theoretical knowledge. They will be supported through quality first teaching and intervention and support as required.
- Enrichment activities such as extra-curricular activities (choir, Djembe drumming and school of rock club) will be open to all students. There is the opportunity for peripatetic music lessons and educational visits/theatre trips for the faculty as well as workshops with visiting professionals.



- SEN students follow the same curricular pathway as it is important that they are provided with access to the same body of practical and theoretical knowledge. This is supported through clearly differentiated teaching which will include tailored resources and tasks to suit the needs of students.
- Our belief is that homework is used for deliberate practice of what has been taught in lessons. We also use retrieval practice and spaced revision to support all students with committing knowledge to long term memory. KS4 students will have theory work to complete at home, consolidating the knowledge taught in lessons. They will also be expected to practice their specialist instrument at home if they have access to one.

Opportunities to build an understanding of social, moral and ethical issues are developed alongside links to the wider world, including careers, through:

- Across all schemes of work there is the opportunity for students to complete self and peer assessment tasks, allowing them to evaluate their own work and the work of others.
- Students will be assigned specific roles during group work, showing teamwork skills and an ability to work with others.
- Unit 1 of the BTEC Tech Award has strong links to careers education, with one learning aim focusing on the qualifications and transferable skills required to be successful in the industry. Even if students do not continue with further study in music, the skills that they will develop on this unit will be highly sought after by employers and will help them in other subjects.

A true love of Music is developed by teaching beyond the domain of the GCSE specification. Examples of such content:

- Extra curricular opportunities for students include Choir, Djembe drumming and School of Rock club. There will be opportunities for students studying music in KS4 to join these clubs. There will also be the opportunity for students to assist with running/leading rehearsals for these ensembles under supervision to show progress towards units 1 and 2 of the BTEC Tech Award.

Further Information can be found in:

- Long term plans
- Knowledge Organisers
- All lessons on SharePoint