



Music: Year 7 Overview

Topic 1: Core Skills – 10 Weeks

In this introductory unit, students engage with foundational musical concepts, focusing on reading music notation and rhythmic patterns. They develop body percussion techniques, vocal techniques and explore the keyboard. The unit culminates in a solo performance on the keyboard and a group singing performance, where students showcase their proficiency in rhythm, melody, and coordination.

Topic 2: Keyboard Skills – 10 Weeks

Expanding on the foundational Core Skills unit, students further develop their keyboard proficiency by learning a more complex classical piece. This unit emphasizes an in-depth exploration of musical elements such as melody, harmony, rhythm, and dynamics within a classical context. Through this study, students gain a deeper understanding of musical structure and expression, building both confidence and technical skill in performance. By the end of the unit, students demonstrate improved instrumental ability and performance readiness, showcasing their growth in interpretation and technique on the keyboard.

Topic 3: African Drumming – 6 Weeks

This unit introduces students to West African drumming, focusing on the traditional rhythms, structure, and cultural background of this genre. Students learn to perform and compose within the West African drumming style, working collaboratively to create a group piece. Emphasis is placed on developing teamwork, leadership, and creativity as they prepare a final ensemble performance.

Topic 4: Medieval Music – 7 Weeks

Students explore the distinct features of Medieval music, focusing on melodic composition. They learn to use scales to create melodies, expanding their knowledge of music theory and historical contexts. The unit includes a composition project, allowing students to apply their theoretical understanding in crafting and performing their own pieces inspired by Medieval music.

Topic 5: The Musical Elements – 5 Weeks

In this unit, students solidify their grasp of the fundamental elements of music, such as rhythm, melody, harmony, and dynamics. Through collaborative band work, they apply these elements in both composition and performance, developing a comprehensive understanding of how each element contributes to musical expression.