



Music: Year 9 Overview

Topic 1: Bhangra – 6 Weeks

In preparation for GCSE-level music, students explore the genre of Bhangra, with a focus on its fusion of traditional and modern elements. They study the iconic 'chaal' rhythm and experiment with music technology to remix Bhangra into contemporary styles, enhancing their performance and arrangement skills within small groups.

Topic 2: Reggae – 5 Weeks

Students investigate Reggae music through an in-depth study of Bob Marley's "Three Little Birds," focusing on key elements such as syncopated rhythms, chord progressions, and melodic patterns. As they work in bands, they develop their instrumental and collaborative skills, applying Reggae's stylistic nuances in performance.

Topic 3: Pop Song Challenge – 10 Weeks

This unit challenges students to create original pop songs, honing their composition skills. They study chord progressions, song structure, and melodic writing, then collaborate in pairs or groups to develop and refine their pieces. The project emphasizes creativity, innovation, and performance skills within a pop context.

Topic 4: The Eras of Western Music – 10 Weeks

Students embark on a historical exploration of Baroque, Classical, and Romantic music, learning about the evolution of the orchestra and the stylistic traits of each era. This unit includes a performance project on the keyboard, where students work toward mastering Beethoven's "Für Elise," developing their individual technical skills.

Topic 5: Disco – 8 Weeks

In this final unit, students examine the genre of Disco, focusing on its rhythmic and harmonic characteristics. They create remixes of iconic Disco pieces, transforming them into modern genres by manipulating musical elements. When possible, they utilize music technology platforms such as Bandlab to support their compositions, gaining experience in digital music production.