

Long Term Plan – Music (2026-27)

Vision: Music has power! Music can transport the listener to a different time and place. It can change how we are feeling and connect us to memories of the past and the world around us. At New Mills School, the Music department strives to engage learners with that emotional journey. Through listening and performing, students develop an understanding and appreciation of diverse musical traditions and the rich culture that pioneered and moulded the music industry as we hear it today. We seek to inspire students to explore their own musical identity and self-expression through a variety of musical activities to perform, compose and listen to music from different starting points								Year End Points
	HT1	HT2	HT3	HT4	HT5	HT6	EOY test	
Year 7	Baseline assessment & Raise your voice	Musical elements/ Keyboard and notation	Introduction to Music production	Rhythms of the world	Introduction to Pop Music – set song	Band Skills and rehearsal techniques	Grade 1 theory test	- By the end of year 7, students should have covered basic music theory content to a Grade 1 standard and be able to complete a grade 1 theory paper to at least 50% accuracy. - By the end of year 7 students will be able to perform simple notated melodies on the keyboard, demonstrating that they can read simple treble clef and bass clef notation with reasonable accuracy - By the end of year 7 students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of music sequencing software and how to use functions such as; Audio loops, Midi sounds, editing, play, record, fade in/ out, panning with reasonable success and create a short piece of music with a range of interesting sounds - By the end of year 7 students will be able to develop performance skills on a range of instrumentation and be able to read music in a variety of notated forms to create a performance with accurate timing and structure.
Year 8	Theme and variation		12 Bar Blues and Jazz Improvisation	Music in the Media	Back in time Music from the 1950's Band Carousel		Grade 2 Theory test	- By the end of year 8, students should have a solid understanding of music theory to a Grade 2 standard and be able to complete a grade 2 theory paper to at least 50% accuracy - By the end of year 8, students will have developed performance skills on a popular instrument and should be able to perform with accurate technique, timing and skill - By the end of year 8, students will have a contextual understanding of the historical and cultural influences of Blues music - Through listening and performance, students will gain a clear understanding of the musical features of a range of musical subgenres within popular Music. - By the end of year 8 students will be able to demonstrate basic compositional skills. Developing a piece of music from a given starting point.
Year 9	Music of the Caribbean		Songwriting Write me a hit!		Film Music		Grade 3 Theory test	- By the end of year 9, students should have a good understanding of music theory content to a Grade 3 standard and be able to complete a grade 3 theory paper to at least 50% accuracy - By the end of year 9, students will be able to use their knowledge of popular music and stylistic features to compose a piece of music within a set style either as a band or individually - By the end of year 9, students will be able to navigate music software successfully and create pieces of music using a wide range of music production skills. - By the end of year 9 students

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Year 10	Term 1 &2: AOS1 – My Music Component 1 - Integrated Portfolio AOS5 – Conventions of Pop Music theory and notation	Term 3 AOS2 – Concerto through time AOS3 – Rhythms of the world Music theory and notation	- By the end of year 10, Students should have a comprehensive understanding music theory, notation and musical elements - Students will have explored the fundamental skills and techniques required to develop on an instrument - Students will have completed several solo/ ensemble performances on their main instrument - By the end of year 10 students will have listened to and completed basic practical performance tasks for most AOS linked to the listening exam and will be able to recount facts and stylistic performance techniques as appropriate to each AOS. - By the end of year 10 students will have composed a piece of music from any starting point that they have devised demonstrating a range of skills including instrument selection, stylistic understanding, form and structure.
Year 11	Term 1: AOS4 – Film Music Ensemble performance/ Compose to a set brief Music Theory and Notation	Term 2 & 3: AOS 2-5 Revisit Listening and appraisal Exam preparation	- By the end of year 11, students will be able to perform with technical control, expression and interpretation - By the end of year 11, students will be able to compose and develop musical ideas with technical control and coherence - By the end of year 11, students will be able to demonstrate and apply musical knowledge - By the end of year 11, students will be able to use appraising skills to make evaluative and critical judgements about music.