

MUSIC Curriculum Overview – Year 8

Knowledge Overview	Topic 1 (7 weeks) Working With Chords	Topic 2 (7 weeks) Ballroom Dance Music	Topic 3 (6 weeks) Textures	Topic 4 (6 weeks) African Drumming	Topic 5 (6 weeks) Variations and Ground Bass	Topic 6 (6 weeks) Working With Scales
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The concept of chords, including what they are used for. Understanding how to find the notes for a specific chord. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> History, context and musical features of various traditional dances, including the Tango and Waltz. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Recognising musical textures including rounds, canons, polyphony and counterpoint. Understanding the importance of textures within a range of musical styles. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Knowing the musical and cultural characteristics of African drumming including imitation, polyrhythm and basic drumming techniques. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Exploring Variation and Ground Bass Forms, including common variations that can be applied to simple melodies. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding major scales, including the concepts of tones, semitones and the chromatic scale.
Skills Overview						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Co-ordinating left and right hands in a keyboard performance, using both single and full fingered chords. ✓ Using chords as a harmonic basis to compose a melody. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Co-ordinating left and right hands in a keyboard performance in a Tango style. ✓ Composing and a Waltz melody to fit with an existing chord sequence and Waltz rhythm. ✓ Aural recognition of a variety of dance styles. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Developing independence of the hands when performing a more complex keyboard piece alone. ✓ Composing a piece of polyphonic music. ✓ Aural identification of texture and other musical features of unfamiliar music. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Developing a range of African drumming techniques (bass tone, slap tone, call and response, imitation) culminating in a group performance of African drumming music. ✓ Aural recognition of African drumming features. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Co-ordinating left and right hands in a keyboard-based performance using a ground bass. ✓ Aural recognition of common variation techniques used to create variety in a simple melody. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Co-ordinating left and right hands in a keyboard-based performance using chromaticism. ✓ Composing a diatonic piece of music using a major scale. ✓ Describing the effect of chromaticism used in a piece of music (Impressionism).
Literacy and Assessment						
Literacy – Key language	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Terms relating to harmony, including chord, concord, discord, root, triad, inversion. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Dance style names and terms to describe their style. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Terms to describe musical textures, including monophonic, homophonic and polyphonic. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> African drumming technique terms, including bass tone, slap tone and paradiddle. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Terms describing variation techniques, including ground bass, parallel harmony and counter melody. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Terms relating to scales, including major, minor, chromatic, tone and semitone.
Assessment – Recall of knowledge/skills	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise chord changes in a chord progression. Keyboard performance using full left-hand chords. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Aural recognition of Dance styles and their features. Tango keyboard performance. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Listening assessment identifying musical textures. Keyboard assessment using different textures. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Listening assessment identifying African music features. Drumming performance assessment. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Recognition of variation techniques used. Keyboard performance of a Pachelbel's Canon, 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Listening assessment on the impact of scales on mood. Keyboard performance of Für Elise.

