



Department:	Music		
Year 8 Course summary:			
<p>Students follow a balanced curriculum involving solo and ensemble performance, composition, theory, aural skills, history and culture.</p> <p>Students continue to play together in class; historical and cultural topics include blues and jazz, film music, popular song and programme music (Saint-Saëns).</p> <p>Theoretical and historical work is interwoven with the practical elements of the course, so the popular song topic includes analysis, using editing software, and song writing.</p> <p>All students learn how to use conventional staff notation in the treble and bass clefs, and the basics of how to write out, use and play triads in major and minor keys.</p> <p>The end-of-year examination consists of a listening test and some theoretical work: the final grade is determined by combining this with the practical work from the rest of the year.</p>			
Assessments:			
Michaelmas	Lent	Summer	
Film music keyboard solo performance	Group programme music composition	Blues solo improvisation	
Film music composition	Melody and chords composing using technology	End-of-Year listening Examination	
Key vocabulary:			
accelerando accompaniment bridge call and response changes chord chorus chromatic scale diminished seventh dissonant dynamics	frontline grace note head improvisation instrumental interval introduction major melody minor note	ostinato parallel motion pedal note polyrhythm programme music rallentando repeat rhythm section semitone solo straight (rhythm)	swung syncopation tempo thick texture thin texture trill tritone twelve-bar blues verse virtuosic whole-tone scale