Theory and listening skills | Performing skills | Composing skills

MGSG Music Curriculum 2024-25

Year 13

- Musical Theatre: a study of the genre and focused listening to a range of musical theatre pieces by six prescribed composers
- In depth study of Haydn Symphony no. 104, general study of Mendelssohn Symphony No. 4
- Examine advanced performance practice: historically and personal to students. Prepare for final NEA assessment
- In depth study of the development of the symphony: Berlioz onwards
- Continual preparation for performance to visiting examiner
- Final Preparation for written exam
- Higher Education
- Working on composing NEA portfolio
- Into the Twentieth Century: Maximalism, impressionism expressionism and Neo-Classicism. Study includes two set works

Year 12

- Focused listening to a range of symphonic works
- In depth study of the development of the symphony up to and including Mendelssohn
- Examine advanced performance practice: historical and personal to students, continual practice and performance opportunities
- Free composition
- Developing skills in composing (WCT focus)
- Developing composing skills: melody writing, rhythmic motifs, harmony, texture
- Working on composing NEAs
- Working towards performing NEA: solo and ensemble
- Practice exam questions on the four Areas of Study
- Greater analysis of the set works: fully prepare for the exam questions
- Deliberate, structured listening to carefully selected examples of music from the four Areas of Study: Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music, Popular Music

Year 11

- Optional unit: undertake analysis, research, performance or composition into one of: Fusions, Historical study, Ska and Reggae
- Focused analysis of two set works: Badinerie and Africa
- Building on theory covered in KS3, applying to compositions, listening and analysis work
- Developing composing skills throughout the year: short exercises leading to longer compositions
- Developing performing skills throughout the year: solo and ensemble. Rehearsal, informal and formal performances. Assessed with GCSE criteria

Year 10

- Incidental music, recitative, aria, chorus, ensemble, duet etc
- Origins of musical theatre
- Compose a piece in EDM style using Soundtrap, incorporating trademark features of EDM
- Compose in binary, ternary and rondo structures using clear contrast and cadences to punctuate
- Rehearse and perform a well-known song from a musical: instrumental and vocal parts with accuracy and expression
- Compose a piece of musical to accompany a scene in a musical
- EDM: history, changing musical media
- Creating musical contrast
- 1950s onwards: characteristics of music from each decade
- How do performers achieve expression in their music?
- Rehearse and perform with accuracy and expression
- Bass clef, key signatures
- Forms and structures in WCT
- Triplets, syncopation, notation of rests
- Cadences: where to use them, perfect, plagal and imperfect
- Song-writing: chord patterns, bass lines, melody lines
- Revisit theory from Year 8
- Forms and structures in popular song
- Compose music to accompany a short film clip (Soundtrap)

Year 9

- Compose a section of a song: chord pattern, bass line and melody
- Arrange a well-known pop song: melody, bass, chords & rhythm
- Focus on how verses and choruses sound different
- Evaluate the effect different styles of music have on a film clip
- Examine how mood and atmosphere are created in film music
- Improvise using notes from given scales: Egyptian, Indian and Jazz
- Working with structure
- Instruments used in Egypt, Northern India and Jazz music
- Revisit theory from Year 7
- Compose a pentatonic piece music to a brief
- Compose chord patterns, bass lines and melody lines
- Use Italian terms: tempo & dynamics
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- Learn to play well-known melodies and chords on the keyboard
- Tonality and key signatures, time signatures
- Repetition and sequence
- Musical instruments, families
- Working with Samba rhythms: rehearse and perform
- Practise playing rhythms accurately by ear and from notation on percussion instruments
- Ostinato and riff
- Note lengths & rhythms
- Bars & bar lines, repeat marks
- Note names (treble clef)

Year 8

Year 7

Soundtrap will be available to Year 8 and 9 students and KS4 and 5 Music students

Flat is available to all KS4 and 5 students

All KS3 units of work include a broad range of listening activities in which student develop their listening skills and use of associated vocabulary to a high level

All KS3 units include self- and peer- assessment activities

Throughout the year: use your voice correctly in singing a range of songs

An alternative instrument can be guitar or ukulele.