



Curriculum Update 2020-21
Music Department

On returning to school in September 2020, we embarked on a full Gap Analysis for all year groups to ascertain the breadth and depth of gaps resulting from the National Lockdown in the previous academic year.

We spent the first three weeks of the academic year assessing checking knowledge, skills and understanding for our subject. These skills and knowledge would be essential for future learning.

Gap Analysis

	Gaps identified	Recovery plan from October 2020
Year 7	Elements of Music Instruments of the Symphony Orchestra Music Notation: Graphic notation, conventional duration and pitch Keyboard skills: white notes	Elements of Music White notes on the keyboard
Year 8	Instruments of the Symphony Orchestra Musical Notation: Duration and Pitch Keyboard layout Ukulele: Playing Chords Practical keyboard skills	Instruments of the Symphony Orchestra Keyboard Skills
Year 9	Music Notation: Duration and Pitch Tones and Semitones Scales and their impact on mood Ukulele: Finger Picking	Note and Rest Durations
Year 10	Basic Theoretical knowledge of note and rest durations, stave notation using the Bass clef and Alto Clef	Explored all terminology and knowledge relating to Dynamics, Articulation, Metre, Texture, Timbre, Rhythmical Devices and Tempo
Year 11	Tonality and Harmony Music for Ensemble including set work Composition	Revised Tonality and Harmony Did one set work Started composition

From October until December 2020, we taught an adapted curriculum so that we could fill the gaps identified in the full gap analysis. The recovery plans that were put in place for short-term, medium-term and long-term planning, starting with the most urgent gaps in short term planning.

January 2021

From January 2021, the school is again closed to most children as a result of another National Lockdown. Although we are delivering all lessons live to children at home via the remote learning systems, we have made the following adaptations to planned curriculum to ensure that the lessons are translatable for those at home.

	Adaptations to taught curriculum	Rationale
Year 7	Term 3 (Graphic notation) has been swapped with term 4 (Instruments of the Symphony Orchestra)	Students can't work in groups to perform and create graphic scores, but can learn about the instruments remotely.
Year 8	Term three would have been dedicated to African Music with the main aim to compose an African piece of music as part of an ensemble using rhythm grid notation and improvisation on African/Percussion Instruments. This has been swapped with the theme for the summer term: Accidentally on Purpose. The understanding and identification of the black notes on the keyboard.	Students can not currently work in groups or play on the class instruments. They can however be taught the theoretical concept of the black and white notes on the keyboard remotely and can play chromatic pieces using a virtual keyboard.
Year 9	No change to curriculum. Still exploring tonality and its impact on music. Will unfortunately not be able to compose, but will do solo performance of Jupiter.	Students might not have the necessary software, but can practise using a virtual keyboard.
Year 10	No change to curriculum. Exploring all terminology relating to Melody and Structure. Also develops essential listening skills.	
Year 11	Exchanging composition tasks for theoretical and essential listening skills so that we can focus on composition when the students come back.	Students don't necessarily have the software and understanding to complete their compositions at home