Music

Subject Leader: Mrs G Page gpage@taptonschool.co.uk

Curriculum Intent: The music curriculum and provision at Tapton is inclusive, broad ranging, challenging, fun, and does not shy away from teaching mastery of the more complex musical skills. Our spiral curriculum enables equal and continuous development of the three main musical skills: performing, listening, and composing, and we study music from all of the three main areas of study (Western Classical, Popular Music, Traditional Music). This well-established provision provides students with a thorough grounding in all areas of the subject, so that all students are able to progress to the next stage of music study if they wish, regardless of their prior musical experiences or opportunities outside of school. We do not just teach to exam specifications but aim to provide students with all of the tools needed to succeed in music at a high level. This is evident in the destinations of our students after leaving us. Our robust curriculum offer is linked to, and strongly supported by, our outstanding extra-curricular programme and we work closely with our large team of visiting peripatetic instrumental and vocal teachers. All students have access to an established route through from beginner to high quality senior ensembles, and there are many opportunities for students to perform in our extensive concert programme. We teach, and provide opportunities for, students specialising in all areas of music, whether that is classical music, music technology/production, composition, or musicology, and we have strong links with external music organisations in Sheffield and further afield. At Tapton we aim to pass on our own passion for music to our students and nurture the musical development of every child

Core Knowledge

Topics:

Technical vocabulary linked to each of the musical elements in DR P SMITH – Dynamics, Rhythm, Pitch, Structure/Style, Melody/Metre, Instrumentation, Texture/Tonality, Harmony.

Western Classical Music

A brief history of classical music (spring) and a specific focus on the stylistic features of music from the classical era (spring).

Popular Music

Stylistic features of music for media (autumn) and music for theatre (spring-summer)

Traditional Music

Stylistic features of reggae, samba, Latin (autumn), folk (spring-summer), African fusion (summer) and calypso music (summer).

Procedural Knowledge

Students will:

Listen to music analytically and describe it using technical vocabulary.

Aurally identify instruments; rhythms; chords; intervals up to a perfect 5th and beyond

Perform as both a soloist and as part of an ensemble on a range of instruments/voice/technology.

Read more advanced elements of music notation including dynamics, articulation, repeats, different keys, tempo markings.

Compose music following a given brief using both traditional written notation and music technology.

Homework:

Homework is set on Satchel: One for every six hours taught.

Assessment

Each half-termly project includes self, peer, and teacher feedback throughout.

Each half-termly project is teacher assessed. In the first half of the year, we will assess listening (music for media), performing (a solo of the student's choice), and composing (traditional music rhythmic fusion project) and then average them together as is the case at GCSE and A Level. We will then do the same for the second half of the year (folk and musicals listening assessment, musicals ensemble performance, classical fusion composition). This is so that we can track student progress and give students targeted feedback and support for progression to GCSE.

Links to Personal Development:

Careers in performing are discussed in the classical chromaticism project and the popular music performing project.

Careers in film music composition and sound design/production are discuss in the film music topic.

Students are encouraged to participate in our strong extra-curricular and concert programme. There are options available to all students, regardless of prior experience.

How is my knowledge developed further at GCSE?

In KS4, students continue to build upon their skills in the three areas of listening, performing, and composing. They will focus on one instrument/voice or decided to use music technology to produce their work. Students will continue to learn about music from all of the following three areas of study: Western Classical Music, Popular Music, and Traditional Music.