

Composite: Rock Band

Year 9

This half term, students explore the key features of Rock Music and learn to perform *Seven Nation Army* by The White Stripes. They practise the main bass riff, chords and drum patterns on their chosen instrument while improving their notation, TAB and rhythm skills.

Students rehearse independently and as a full class, developing confidence, ensemble timing and fluency. They **Belong** by working together as a band, **Thrive** as they build instrumental skills, and **Achieve** by performing the song confidently in a whole-class performance.

Performing Arts: *Teaching our students to be confident, creative and collaborative Performers.*

Composite: Reggae Music

Year 9

This half term, students explore Reggae, a style that began in Jamaica in the late 1960s. They learn its key features, including off-beat (syncopated) rhythms, simple three-chord patterns, strong bass lines and the relaxed, uplifting sound heard in much of Bob Marley's music.

Students apply this knowledge by learning to perform *Three Little Birds* on keyboard, ukulele or guitar. They practise the main chords (A, D and E), the reggae off-beat strumming pattern and the melodic riff, focusing on smooth chord changes, accurate counting and confident performance.

Throughout the unit, learners rehearse independently and in groups, improving timing, fluency and ensemble skills. They **Belong** by working together as a musical group, **Thrive** as they develop instrumental skills and syncopated rhythms, and **Achieve** by performing the song fluently and in time as part of a whole-class performance.

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Composite: EDM (Electronic Digital Music) Project

Year 9

This half term, Year 9 students become digital composers by creating their own soundtrack for a TV commercial using Mixcraft, a Digital Audio Workstation (DAW). They learn how modern music is made through sequencing, digital instruments and audio editing.

Students begin by sequencing the melody of *Someone You Loved* and then record and edit their own performances using MIDI keyboards. As their skills develop, they add accompaniment, bass lines and sound samples to produce a polished commercial soundtrack. Through this process, they explore how tempo, texture, dynamics and instrumentation shape the emotion and impact of music.

Alongside composition work, students strengthen their understanding of rhythm, chords, notation and musical structure. They rehearse independently and in pairs, using feedback to improve fluency, accuracy and creativity.

This topic supports our school values: students **Belong** by collaborating and supporting one another, **Thrive** as they gain confidence with professional-style music technology, and **Achieve** by producing an original soundtrack that fits the mood and purpose of a commercial.

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