

Music Curriculum Information

Year 6

The girls study graphic scores, use instruments and voices to devise and interpret graphic scores and compose a theme for television. They learn to use music notation to compose and perform a rhythmic piece for percussion instruments. They sing a variety of rounds, creating their own arrangements and exploring the effects of combining notes to create harmony. The girls compose and perform their own songs, writing lyrics and setting words to music. They use the pentatonic scale to improvise and compose the backing music for a story.

Year 7

The girls study form and structure, composing and performing pieces in ternary form. They learn to use major and minor keys and chords, practise writing and playing chords and read scores. They compose their own fanfare for a special occasion and explore Jamaican music, playing the steel pans. They investigate a range of music for the screen, using this to compose and perform their own film or advertising soundtrack.

Year 8

The girls use voices to create a layered piece with a range of choral textures and explore African vocal music. They learn to perform and compose ragtime music and develop an awareness of its development and importance. They perform a blues chord progression and use this to develop their own blues piece. The girls develop their understanding of chords and ground bass and perform music in a rock and roll style. They end the year by exploring and composing Reggae music.

Year 9

The girls explore the importance and relevance of music in society. This includes a brief history of western and world music and exploring the extensive use of music in film/media/sport and religion. They develop their composing skills by devising music for films and adverts and focus on the use of the voice as an instrument, how the voice works and vocal techniques. They study and perform a wide range of vocal styles, culminating in performances of group compositions.

Year 10 GCSE

AQA 4272

The girls study music of the Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods and compose in range of associated forms, including ground bass, variations, ternary and rondo structures. They develop knowledge of music theory with a practical application for



composing, alongside aural skills. They compose and perform music in a range of styles including R'n'B, musicals and rock music. The girls learn to appreciate and recognise music from India and Africa, including classical music, bhangra and the role of the master drummer. They perform solos and in ensembles.

Year 11 GCSE

AQA 4272

The girls study fusion music, including Bollywood, Salsa and Reggae. They continue with their work as performers and extend and develop their compositions.

Year 12 AS

AQA 1271

The girls cover three study topics: "Influences on music", "Creating musical ideas" and "Interpreting musical ideas". There is a set piece for study on "The Western classical tradition" and then a further topic to be studied in detail to be decided; these topics include baroque choral music, musical theatre or British popular music. They also cover topics such as composing and arranging music and have the opportunity to perform solo and/ensemble pieces.

Year 13 A2

AQA 2271

The second year follows the same format with a new set piece for study within "The Western classical tradition" and has study options for choral, chamber or jazz genres. The course work is on "Developing musical ideas" and covers composition and arrangement in more detail. The performance part of the course once again lets the girls present a solo and/ensemble vocal or instrumental piece of work.

