

Wigmore High School Music Curriculum Overview

September 2026: Mrs. G King

Year Group	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
7	Introduction to Music Listening Exploring instruments and understanding the Elements of Music Composing - Rhythms and Melody Performing – Own compositions Singing – whole class (folk songs) Includes a Baseline Assessment	Graphic Scores Listening Exploring graphic scores through – Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy, Cathy Berberian, Anna Clyne Composing Own Graphic Scores Includes an assessment (composing and performing) Performing As a whole class and in small groups – using Graphic Scores Singing	Understanding Music: Rhythm Listening Developing use of Musical Vocabulary in listening activities – linked the elements of Music Composing Using Traditional staff notation – Rhythm and Pitch – in groups To include an assessment. Performing Own compositions, Steve Reich Clapping Music Singing Whole Class – exercises and	Understanding Music: Pitch Listening Developing use of Musical Vocabulary listening to pieces which explore pitch in an interesting way e.g. Rhapsody in Blue, Fur Elise Composing Own Melodies Performing Performing on keyboards and being inspired by professional pianists Singing Whole class games and activities to support pitch understanding	World Music: Africa and Brazil Listening Identifying musical devices through listening to traditional music from Africa and Brazil Composing Rhythms in groups Performing Whole class Samba and African Drumming performances Singing Whole Class: Nkosi Sikelele Afrika, Merengue	Musical Theatre Listening Using Musical Vocabulary to discuss how the elements of Music help to add to the stories – through a variety of MT songs – to include an assessment Composing Writing lyrics and chord sequences for their own MT song Performing Whole Class Singing

		From Graphic Scores – as a whole class and in smaller groups	games to support rhythm understanding e.g. Banana Mango			
8	Popular Music 1 Listening From across various popular music styles Composing Riffs and chord patterns Performing Whole class performance of pop song (Ed Sheeran's Perfect) Singing Whole class singing to teach syncopation and ensemble skills Careers Focus Throughout	Popular Music 2 Listening From a range of popular music styles – developing musical vocabulary and identifying sounds. Includes a listening assessment Composing Hip Hop drum beats and bass lines. Country Song – Lyrics, Chord pattern and melody Includes a composition assessment Performing Own compositions (Songs). Either	Programme Music 1 Listening Music from the Western Classical Tradition – developing use of musical vocabulary and recognising sounds. Exploring how elements of music impact the mood of the music. Composing Planet compositions, leitmotifs, discovering composers, including Holst, Saints-Saens and Errollyn Wallen Performing	Programme Music 2 Listening Focus on music from the Western Classical Tradition - Carnival of the Animals - Peter and the Wolf - The Snowman - Prelude l'apres midi d'un faune Composing Animal Compositions – Inspired by the Carnival of the Animals and Peter and the Wolf. Free composition inspired either by	Jazz and Blues Listening Jazz and Blues music from a range of artists. Developing new Musical Vocabulary in response to listening activities. Music from artists including: BB King Ray Charles Miles Davis Duke Ellington Composing Improvisation Call and Response Rhythms 12 Bar Blues Performing Playing the 12 bar blues on keyboards and then	World Music Reggae, Samba, Trad Irish Listening Developing listening skills by identifying the elements of music from 3 different world music traditions. Exploring the differences between the styles. Composing Samba rhythms Performing Three Little Birds on Ukeles

		whole song, or elements of the song Singing Whole Class Singing – Lean on Me	own compositions – using keyboards and percussion	literature, a place or a person Performing Own compositions on keyboards and percussion Scheme of works ends with an assessment on Programme Music from the term.	improvising around the chords (to a backing track) Includes a practical assessment – improvisation using the Blues scales Singing Blues Songs – whole class	Black Velvet Band on Keyboards (melody) Singing Rattling Bog Three Little Birds Merengue Black Velvet Band Whole class singing
9	Film Music Listening Exploring characters and places represented through music. Soundtracks including: The Hobbit Batman Jaws Composing Rooftop Chase – Rhythm compositions	Rhythm and Beat Recap Listening Activities to support understanding time signatures. Composing Composing rhythms – using a grid to notate compositions and layer sounds – group activity Performing	Music Technology Listening Composing Performing Singing	Songwriting Listening To a range of different song styles including folk, Renaissance, Pop Includes a listening assessment. Composing Writing a chorus to a pop song – chord pattern, melody and lyrics Performing	Fusion 1 Listening Graceland Album selection– Paul Simon – Understanding context and musical fusion Within You, Without You – The Beatles (Fusion with Indian Classical) Ravi Shankar – Symphony	Fusion 2 Listening They don't care about us – Michael Jackson – Fusion with Samba and understanding cultural context Composing Polyrhythms Performing Polyrhythms – on percussion Riffs on Keyboards

	using percussion instruments. "I don't like Jazz" - persuasive compositions. Exploring Sound effects. Dragon Leitmotifs. Music to create tension. Includes a composition assessment. Performing Own compositions and sound effects using keyboards, voices and percussion instruments Singing Songs from the movies Careers focus – composing for films	Own compositions in groups – adding dynamics and varying the texture. Exploring how to develop compositions.		Either the whole of the chorus or just an element of it. Using keyboards and voices. Singing Singing a range of folk and pop songs as a whole class	Afro Celt Sound System – Release (Irish trad and Electronic Fusion) Composing African Rhythms Indian Ragas Performing Own compositions – percussion and keyboards Irish Traditional tune on keyboards and Ukeleles	Singing Michael Jackson – Billie Jean
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10	AoS 1: Musical Forms and Devices Rhythm and Melody Listening - Composition Exploring different forms and musical devices Performance Introduction to ensemble performing and solo performing	Study of set work (AoS 1) - Badinerie (Bach)	AoS 4: Popular Music Study of Set Work (AoS 4) Composition: Exploring popular music composition techniques Performance: Focus on solo performances		AoS 2: Music for Ensemble Composition – Free Composition Performance: Focus on ensemble performances	
11	AoS 3: Film Music Composition: Set Brief Composition – Introduction Performing: Preparing for solo and ensemble recordings		AoS1 and 4 – Review of Set Works Composition: Set Brief Performing: Solo and Ensemble recordings		Revision of all areas of study and listening exam preparation	