Music – Key Stage 4 Curriculum Overview 2026/27

	Half Term 1	Half Term 2	Half Term 3	Half Term 4	Half Term 5	Half Term 6
Year 10	**Keys, Chords and Cadences** Students learn the fundamentals of music theory, focusing on keys, chords, and cadences to support them in accessing the score reading and theory content in their two set pieces.	**AOS4 – Popular Music and Fusion** Students recap learning about the set study 'Africa' linking that knowledge to harmonic understanding of scales, chords and key. Students perform in a popular style and put these popular performances in context in harmony and time.	**AOS1 – Musical Forms and Devices** Students learn about the set study 'Badinerie'. Students continue to develop their understanding of harmony through modulations and in a classical style. Students perform in a classical style and link that learning to their harmonic understanding.	**AOS2 – Music for Ensemble** Students study three different ensemble types: chamber music; musical theatre; and jazz and blues. Students study these styles through the lens of the musical elements (MAD TSHIRT)	**Free Composition** Students start their free composition with coaching from their teacher. **Mock Performances** **AOS3 – Film Music** Students learn about different film writing styles and link these to listening questions. Students compose fragments of music to describe different scenes in a film in a programmatic style.	
Year 11	**Brief Composition** Students respond to the composition briefs set by the exam board. **Mock Performances** **AOS4 Recap** Students recap AOS4 with a knowledge focus on the set study 'Africa' by Toto. Students engage with a variety of different popular styles over the course of time. Students specifically look at the fusion style Bhangra.		**AOS3 Recap** Students recap AOS3 with a focus on the way composers use music to create a particular effect. Students listen to a wide variety of film music.	**AOS2 Recap** Students recap AOS2 with a focus on the three key styles of chamber music, musical theatre and jazz and blues. Students perform in the style and listen to a wide variety of music from the styles.	**AOS1 Recap** Students revise key theoretical concepts of musical forms and devices including the different periods of music.	