Curriculum Intent

Our Music curriculum is rich in knowledge and in the practical skills and understanding needed for scholars to succeed. Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.

During their time at Astrea Academy Sheffield, scholars will perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. They will learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.

We believe it is important that our scholars understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

To achieve success in music, it is crucial that our scholars develop a deepening understanding of the history of the music that they perform and to which they listen, fostering an understanding of how music has developed over time. It is also crucial for our scholars to understand how music varies from different cultures and how this links to the western world.

The skills our scholars will acquire include learning to play and perform confidently in a range of solo and ensemble contexts using their voice, playing instruments musically, fluently and with accuracy and expression. Scholars will learn to improvise and compose, extending and developing musical ideas by drawing on a range of musical structures, styles, genres and traditions.

Our scholars will use staff and other relevant notations appropriately and accurately in a range of musical styles, genres and traditions. They will learn to identify and use the inter-related dimensions of music expressively and with increasing sophistication, including use of tonalities, different types of scales and other musical devices. Scholars will also listen with increasing discrimination to a wide range of music from great composers and musicians.

Below shows the knowledge studied in Music at different points throughout a scholar's time at Astrea Academy Sheffield.

September 2022 – July 2023

Year	Half-term 1	Half-term 2	Half-term 3	Half-term 4	Half-term 5	Half-term 6	What will a successful scholar look like at this stage?
7	**Building Blocks** The Elements of Music • Pitch, Texture, Timbre & Dynamics • Sound • Graphic Scores • Duration • Silence • Timbre • Attack & Decay	**Instruments of the Orchestra** Exploring Timbre • Pitch, Texture, Timbre & Dynamics, Melody & Harmony • Strings, Brass • Woodwind, Percussion • March – Class Orchestra • Conducting, Timbre • Tuned & Untuned Percussion • Instrument Research	**Machine Music** Rhythm Notation • Pulse, Rhythm • Crotchet, Quaver, Semiquaver • Dynamics • Timbre • Rondo • Forte, Piano, Mezzo • Crescendo, Diminuendo • Repeat • Tempo • Rest	**Pitch and Put** Staff Notation • Stave • Treble • Clef • Time signature • Crotchet, quaver, minim, semibreve • Bar, bar lines • Repeat • Scale • Octave	**Gamelan** Eastern Music • Tuned Percussion • Pentatonic Scales • Arrangement • Oral Tradition • Melody, Harmony, Bass • Grid Notation • Ostinato	**4 chord songs** Exploring popular music and arrangements • Chords, chord progression • Repetition • Song • Tonality • Composition	Scholars will be confident in knowledge of the Western classical music tradition. They will have knowledge of the elements of music and see the importance their role in music. Scholars will have a strong understanding of a variety of forms of notation and methods of scoring used in music. Scholars will have sound knowledge of the timbre of instruments and the texture of sounds. Successful scholars will be able to demonstrate knowledge of rhythm and repetition in music including in Eastern musical traditions and common chord progressions in popular music.

8	**Programme Music** Exploring Sounds ⁂ Texture, Timbre & Dynamics ⁂ Programme Music ⁂ Storyboard, Leitmotif introduction, ⁂ Timbre & Instrumentation ⁂ Dynamics ⁂ Structure, Tonality	**African Drumming** Exploring Polyrhythms Rhythm, Timbre & Dynamics ⁂ Rhythm, Bass/Tone/Slap, ⁂ Master Drummer ⁂ Rhythm Grid Notation ⁂ Call & Response, Polyrhythms ⁂ Cyclic Rhythms, Syncopation ⁂ Improvisation, Pentatonic.	**Dance Music** Exploring modern minimalism and dance music. ⁂ Improvisation ⁂ Structure ⁂ Repetition ⁂ Riff ⁂ Ostinato ⁂ 4 to the floor ⁂ Texture ⁂ Chords	**Reggae** Exploring offbeat and chord patterns ⁂ Offbeat ⁂ Chord, Chord progression ⁂ Riff ⁂ Hook ⁂ Root note ⁂ Octave ⁂ Chord inversion ⁂ Guitar tablature ⁂ Bass line	**Hooks and Riffs** Exploring how music is based on Repeated Musical Patterns. ⁂ Hook ⁂ Riff ⁂ Ostinato ⁂ Bass Line ⁂ Melody ⁂ Chords ⁂ Accents	**Hooks and Riffs** **Composition and Performance** Exploring how music is based on Repeated Musical Patterns. ⁂ Hook ⁂ Riff ⁂ Ostinato ⁂ Bass Line ⁂ Melody ⁂ Chords ⁂ Accents	Scholars will build on their knowledge from the previous year by further studying rhythm through African drumming and focusing on timbre, texture and dynamics when composing music for a storyboard. Successful scholars will be able to analyse the structure of music when studying call and response work, cyclic rhythms, dance music, ostinato and hooks. Reggae music will teach the offbeat and chord progression, and scholars will be able to demonstrate skills with various instruments. Using repeated hooks and riffs found in popular music, Scholars will create, structure and perform a piece of their own music and.
9	**The Blues** Exploring Chords & Bass Lines ⁂ *Pitch, Texture,* ⁂ *Melody & Harmony* ⁂ Chords & Triads ⁂ Root, Third, Fifth ⁂ Bass Lines/Walking Bass Line ⁂ Chords & Chord Progressions ⁂ Twelve-bar Blues	**The Blues** Exploring Chords & Bass Lines ⁂ *Pitch, Texture,* ⁂ *Melody & Harmony* ⁂ Chords & Triads ⁂ Root, Third, Fifth ⁂ Bass Lines/Walking Bass Line ⁂ Chords & Chord Progressions ⁂ Twelve-bar Blues ⁂ Scat Singing ⁂ Lyrics	**Film Music** Music & The Media ⁂ Melody & Harmony ⁂ Timbre ⁂ Dynamics ⁂ Structure & Form ⁂ Cue Sheet ⁂ Leitmotif ⁂ Genre ⁂ Score ⁂ Soundtrack	**Film Music** Music & The Media ⁂ Melody & Harmony ⁂ Timbre ⁂ Dynamics ⁂ Structure & Form ⁂ Cue Sheet ⁂ Leitmotif ⁂ Genre ⁂ Score ⁂ Soundtrack	**Stomp** Exploring rhythm through junk instruments ⁂ Form and Structure ⁂ Melodic Ostinato ⁂ Rhythmic Ostinato ⁂ Percussion ⁂ Rhythm ⁂ Timbre ⁂ Improvisation ⁂ Composition	**Stomp** **Composition and Performance** Exploring rhythm through junk instruments ⁂ Form and Structure ⁂ Melodic Ostinato ⁂ Rhythmic Ostinato ⁂ Percussion ⁂ Rhythm ⁂ Timbre ⁂ Improvisation ⁂ Composition	Scholars will study the blues and gain knowledge of the rich history of the genre. Successful scholars will be able to demonstrate and articulate knowledge of 12 bar blues, walking bass lines, blues scales, chords and triads. Scholars' further study of structure will encompass music and media including music for film, scholars will successfully compose their own soundtracks and film scores. Scholars will practice the skills of improvisation and then use their knowledge of form and structure to compose intricate rhythmical pieces
10							
11							