

Wednesfield Academy Curriculum Overview (2026 -2027)

Curriculum Intent: The focus of the Music curriculum here at Wednesfield Academy is to enable students to develop their creativity, confidence, and communication through performing, evaluating, and composing. We want our students to be inducted into the powerful cultural knowledge associated with music and discover and develop their performing skills to a level of proficiency that enables them to participate in social music making activities. The teaching staff supports pupil's creative intentions and offer opportunities for students to showcase their work.

Curriculum Rationale: Students will be taught the basic skills which allows them to develop and grow throughout Key Stage 3. They will explore a variety of genres, instruments, and techniques through composing, evaluating, and performing. Students will look at the impact music has had historically and will investigate key techniques and elements within these styles. Pupils will develop their social and soft skills through their music journey which will allow them to have the skills to be a successful young person and have an appreciation of music.

Year Group	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
7 (Music)	<u>Fundamentals and theory of the keyboard</u> Students will understand the basic parts of the keyboard including musical elements and performance techniques.	<u>Pentatonic Scales major and minor</u> Students will explore further the power of the pentatonic using melody and chords.	<u>Rock and Roll</u> Students will explore Rock and Roll by understanding the genre exploring key features and then practicing and performing a song from that era.	<u>Pop/Solo Performance</u> Pupils focus on cultivating confidence, stage presence, and independence. Through skill-building exercises and solo practice, students develop the ability to captivate audiences and express themselves effectively.	<u>Ensemble Performance</u> Students will discover ensemble skills and techniques on how to collaborate and work together and understand keyboard performance whilst singing.	
8 (Music)	<u>Musical terms through Blues</u> Students will develop their group skills and will perform as part of a group looking specifically and performance and accuracy of the chosen style of blues, which includes the 12 Bar Blues alongside the Major and Minor Blue scales.	<u>Exploring percussion through Samba</u> Students will deepen their understanding of key musical elements such as rhythm, texture, structure, and instruments through Samba music using various percussive instrumentation and keyboards.	<u>Reggae</u> Students will develop their group skills and will perform as part of a group looking specifically and performance and accuracy of the chosen style of reggae.	<u>Gaming Music</u> Pupils will explore how music enhances gameplay and emotion in video games. They will compose a short piece using repetition, variation, and mood to suit a game setting. Using instruments or digital tools, they will develop sound layers to create atmosphere.	<u>Ensemble Performance</u> Students are exploring ensemble skills and techniques on how to collaborate and work together and understand keyboard performance whilst singing.	
9 (Music)	<u>History of Music</u> Students will delve deeper into the history of music including looking at the styles of Baroque, Classical, Romantic and Renaissance.	<u>Film Music</u> Students will explore how music is used across different media types including film. They will use and develop their musical knowledge to compare film music whilst also creating their own leitmotifs for a film trailer or scene.	<u>Composition</u> Students will independently explore their choice of genre to compose their own piece of music using music technology and live instrumentation.	<u>Bhangra</u> Students will develop their group skills and will perform as part of a group looking specifically and performance and accuracy of the chosen style of Bhangra which is in alignment with popular music.	<u>Ensemble performance</u> Students will explore and develop prior ensemble performance skills and techniques specifically looking and different styles and genres	
10 (BTEC Music)	<u>Component 1: Exploring music products and styles (30%)</u> Pupils will be able to understand how different music products such as recordings compositions and live performances are created within the music industry. They will be able to explore how musical elements technology and resources are used in the creation production and performance of music. Pupils will also be able to investigate key features of different musical styles and music theory and apply this knowledge to create their own original musical work		<u>Component 2: Music Skills Development (30%)</u> Pupils will be able to develop their technical practical and professional skills through workshops and classes focused on music performance creating original music and music production. They will be able to review their progress over time and make improvements based on self-reflection and feedback. Pupils will also be able to understand how musicians share their work and collaborate with others using platforms such as blogs YouTube and Soundcloud. Through this component pupils will be able to explore their enjoyment and strengths in music helping them make informed decisions about future study or careers. They will also develop transferable		<u>Component 3: Responding to a brief preparation</u> Pupils will be able to respond creatively to a set music brief by applying their strengths and interests as a performer composer or producer. They will be able to explore develop and refine original musical ideas using appropriate skills techniques and styles. Pupils will be able to present their final piece as a live performance audio recording or DAW project and reflect on how their work connects to roles in the music industry. They	

		skills such as communication independence and creativity that will support their progression in education or employment.	will also be able to develop key skills in communication presentation and self-management to support future study or progression.
11 (BTEC Music)	Component 3: Responding to a brief preparation Pupils will be able to respond creatively to a set music brief by applying their strengths and interests as a performer composer or producer. They will be able to explore develop and refine original musical ideas using appropriate skills techniques and styles. Pupils will be able to present their final piece as a live performance audio recording or DAW project and reflect on how their work connects to roles in the music industry. They will also be able to develop key skills in communication presentation and self-management to support future study or progression.	Component 3 : Responding to a brief Pupils will respond to a set brief by developing and creating a musical outcome using performance, composition or production skills. They will plan and refine their work, apply appropriate musical techniques and evaluate how effectively the final outcome meets the brief. They will also be able to develop key skills in communication presentation and self-management to support future study or progression.	

Useful Websites for independent study	
<u>KS3</u>	<u>KS4</u>
BBC Bitesize Music - BBC Bitesize BBC Teach KS2 / KS3 Music: Compose Yourself - BBC Teach GCSE Pod Oak National Academy https://www.thenational.academy/	BTEC Tech Award Performing Arts spec - Music Practice (2022) BTEC Tech Awards Pearson qualifications Example Assessments Music Practice (2022) BTEC Tech Awards Pearson qualifications