



Dudley Academies Trust - The Link Academy

Statement of Curriculum Intent- Music 2021 - 2022

Music at The Link Academy engages and inspires learners to develop a love of music. It develops their skills and talent whilst developing a range of transferable skills including creativity, independent learning, team work, time management and improving confidence in order to perform to an audience.

The aim of our curriculum is to expose learners to a range of music styles, composers and performers from around the globe. Learners will have the opportunity to use a range of instruments including their voices, keyboards, percussion, and music technology to compose and perform various styles of music. They will listen, appraise and evaluate music from some of the best composers and performers of their genre/era and understand the influence they have.

Learners will develop a knowledge and understanding of the elements of music including dynamics, rhythm, structure, timbre (instrumentation), tempo, pitch (melody), texture, tonality, and harmony. In line with the national curriculum, they will learn to:

- perform confidently in a range of solo and ensemble contexts using their voice, playing instruments musically, fluently and with accuracy and expression
- Improvise and compose; and extend and develop musical ideas by drawing on a range of musical structures, styles, genres and traditions
- Use staff and other relevant notations appropriately and accurately in a range of musical styles, genres and traditions
- 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
- Listen with increasing discrimination to a wide range of music from great composers and musicians
- Develop a deepening understanding of the music that they perform and to which they listen, and its history.

How will this be achieved in our curriculum?

In year 7, learners will be introduced to the elements of music and have a basic understanding of notation, how this relates to the notes on an instrument (usually a keyboard) and learn to perform with accuracy and fluency. They will use this knowledge to begin composing rhythms and melodies influenced by the genres of music they have studied.

In year 8, learners will develop their knowledge of the elements of music and how they can be used expressively. They will build on their knowledge from year 7 and develop their skills to perform more complex pieces with improved accuracy, fluency, and expression. When developing their composition skills, they will learn how music can reflect, create, express, and influence mood and tonality linking this to why music is a big part of our everyday lives.

In year 9, learners will develop their knowledge of notation, elements of music and the skill of composing using music technology. They will learn about the relevance of technology in music and how it has developed. They will understand the importance of music in the media and how this supports the British economy. Developing their own performance skills on the instrument of their choosing and becoming an expert in a style of music they feel a connection with, they are prepared for further studies at key stage 4 and the components of BTEC Music (which we offer at The Link Academy) but also GCSE Music.

How does assessment fit in?

In all years, core-knowledge that supports composing, performing, and Listening/appraising skills is regularly checked through retrieval tasks as part of DNAs. Throughout the year, we assess learners on their composing, performing, and Listening and appraising skills. Each scheme will usually assess composing or performing and a listening assessment is often included in addition. Listening assessments are often in the form of a test with specific one-mark answers about an element of music but gradually build in year 9 to extended writing describing a piece of music and referring to all of the elements. This also supports work completed in of the BTEC music course.