



Weaverham High School Performing Arts Department. Music Department.



Year 9 – Preparing for GCSE.

Welcome to your preparation for GCSE Music Document. Please find below some ideas for websites and resources that you may wish to look at in order to prepare you for your GCSE Music course in September.

Component 1: Understanding Music

Please listen to as many different styles of music as possible. The links below take you to the styles of music we will be studying over the two years:

AOS1: Western Classical Music

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HG2UMO6rZd4>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YT_63UntRJE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cykgz9nIRtI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cHw4GER-MiE>

AOS2: Popular Music

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9DD7VIKZnGA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=naoknj1ebqI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IXdNnw99-Ic>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oEZh88vz8b8>

AOS3: Traditional Music

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X70VMrH3yBg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VRQbN94mhQ>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OsdzPWtEqy0>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K9jmjXDQ5MQ>

AOS4: Western Classical Music from 1900

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LsReWx9XdNs>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=znX6vrqLERY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CIMUquOdDT4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNZQzpWCTIA>

You will be required to describe what is happening in various excerpts of Music using Musical vocabulary. You should already be familiar with the different elements of Music : Dynamics, Rhythm, Structure, Melody, Instrumentation, Texture and Harmony

Otherwise known as **DR SMITH**.

All the vocabulary learnt throughout the course is in the separate glossary. In preparation for next year, please read through all the musical words and underline in pencil any words you are already familiar with.

When you are listening to music between now and September try and identify the features you are familiar with eg. If you know what a flute is, identify when you hear one in one of the pieces above.

Component 2: Performing Music

I would like each of you to prepare a solo performance for September. It can be any piece you choose on any instrument, but must be performed without the original and with a backing track (most can be found on youtube).

Don't worry at this stage about the level of difficulty of your piece. Just pick a piece you enjoy singing or playing and that you think shows off your ability to perform.

If you wish to record this on your phone at home and email it to me this is fine. (I will of course have to hear you in person eventually to establish that it is in fact you and not your mum/dad/brother etc!!)

Component 3: Composing

Dear Yr9 / soon to be Yr10 GCSE Music Composing Students,

I am so looking forward to working with all of you on your compositions over the next two years.

Most people worry about the composing element of the course the most because they have least experience in this area but don't worry we take it step by step and in the end most students are really proud of the compositions that they create.

The information that I have sent you is for you to look through and in some cases learn.

- It really helps people compose if they can read musical notation easily – so if you don't then I have included some treble clef and bass clef notation for you to learn (make revision cards/write it out etc...)
- It is also helpful to people if they understand how chords are formed, because chord sequences form the basis of most compositions – so there are a few pages explaining more about chords for you to read through, take notes and make sure you understand.
- There is another sheet for you to read through with other key words which will prove useful and finally a chord sheet for you to play through on a piano or guitar if you have one available to you.

We will be composing on a software called Musescore which is a free music notation software – IT WOULD BE REALLY GREAT IF YOU COULD DOWNLOAD THIS PROGRAMME AND PLAY AROUND WITH IT OVER THE SUMMER so that you know how to use it.

Don't worry if you can't complete some of what I have asked you to do, because you don't have a musical instrument at home or a computer, but anything that you are able to do will be a great help to you in year 10.

If you have any questions then please email me at amanda.atkinson@weaverhamhighschool.com and I'll get back to you.

Mrs Clark and Mrs Atkinson.

Music Department.