

Scheme of Learning: YEAR 9 ROCK 'N' ROLL

Topic Sequence:

1	2	3	4	5
ROCK 'N' ROLL	MINIMALISM	POPULAR SONG	FILM MUSIC	COVER VERSIONS

Topic Overview:

In this topic pupils will listen to, learn about and perform Rock 'n' Roll Music. They will learn about the importance of the social context of the music including its role in transcending cultural divides and changing the social norms of how music was experienced and enjoyed by young people. They will be introduced to the main musical features of the style and gain an understanding of how Rock 'n' Roll built upon the foundations of Blues music, which they studied in Year 8.

Pupils will work firstly in pairs to learn to play the different layers of a Rock 'n' Roll song and then in larger groups to develop their ensemble and vocal skills, culminating in a group performance of a Rock 'n' Roll song. They will also have the opportunity to listen to a wide selection of Rock 'n' Roll music by a range of well-known artists and will apply their knowledge through answering listening questions about some of these pieces.

This topic will build directly upon the Blues, which was studied in Year 8, in addition to furthering the ensemble skills introduced during the Band Project. It will lead also build the foundation for the whole term Popular Song project that pupils will be undertaking later in Year 9.

Lesson Sequence:

Pupils will start the project by listening to some Rock 'n' Roll music and discussing the similarities and differences to the Blues. They will also be taught about the social context of the music and introduced to the work of some famous Rock 'n' Roll artists.

Pupils will revise performing the 12 bar blues, learning how to adjust the tempo and performance style to suit the genre and be introduced to some common ways in which the original chord progression was varied during this era. They will also revisit the walking bass they learnt in Year 8, exploring how it was developed during the 1950's and 60's and how it contributed to the Rock 'n' Roll style. They will then have the opportunity to explore some of the different accompaniment patterns used for playing chords during the rock 'n' roll era with a range of options provided according to keyboard/guitar ability.

At this stage there will be an interim knowledge test in the form of a quick quiz to check that key vocabulary has been learnt and understood.

They will then use Logic to sequence a performance of a Rock 'n' Roll backing track, using appropriate instrument sounds and programming in a stylistically appropriate drum track, building on the programming skills they have been developing since Year 7.

In the final lessons of the topic pupils will then form larger groups and work on adding vocals to their performances, refining their vocal skills and particularly focusing on accuracy of pitch and appropriate expression, culminating in an ensemble performance assessment. There will also be a summative listening test to assess pupil ability to apply their knowledge to analysing an example of Rock 'n' Roll music.

Sequence of Lessons:		Topic Resources:			
1	Introduction to Rock 'n' Roll	Knowledge Map:	Yr 9 Music 1: ROCK 'N' ROLL	Any other Resources:	Rock 'n' Roll Performance sheet
2	Developing from the Blues				
3	Rock 'n' Roll Beats	Assessment:			
4	Knowledge Quiz, Backing track assessment	Knowledge:	Rock 'n' Roll Vocabulary Quiz		
5	Vocal skills	Application of Knowledge:	Rock 'n' Roll Listening test		
6	Listening Test, Performance Development	Practical Skills:	Rock 'n' Roll sequenced backing track assessment, Rock 'n' Roll ensemble performance		
7	Ensemble Performance Assessment	Supportive Listening:			
8		Elvis Presley	Hound Dog		
9		Chuck Berry	Johnny B Goode		
10		Bill Haley & his Comets	Rock Around the Clock		