

Elm Court School

Music Curriculum Overview



Our music programme provides pupils with the foundational skills needed for them to make and perform the music they are passionate about. As well as introducing the pupils to new genres and broadening their knowledge, the programme provides progression routes to further their instrumental and vocal skills, and regular showcase opportunities to grow their performance abilities.

The Key Stage 3 modules introduce pupils to working as a band, communicating rhythm and melodies, playing a range of instruments, and useful techniques for creating music. Y7 and Y8 focus on acoustic and electronic instruments and broaden the pupils' knowledge by exploring the related musical traditions of African folk, Samba, and Jamaican Nyabinghi music. In Year 9, pupils apply their rhythmic, melodic, and songwriting skills to music technology and production. By the end of Y9, pupils will have a broad range of experiences to draw on and, if continuing, will have a strong foundation from which to choose their music specialism.

The Y10-14 Pathways follow on from the KS3 programmes, with pupils working towards their Trinity College of London Bronze Arts Award qualification. As well as allowing the pupils to deep dive and progress their chosen music specialism (e.g. music production, guitar, or singing) the Award also provides pupils with transferable creative skills: researching, reviewing, working independently to create music, building a portfolio of evidence, planning, and teaching a skill to others. Those who finished the Bronze with the required skills could progress to the Silver award.

<p>Year 7:</p> <p>Introduction to Musical Skills</p> <p>Pupils will work as an ensemble using their voices and instruments to experience and perform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rhythm/beat patterns through African folk, graphic notation, pop and rock songs, words and numbers • Pitch (high-low sounds) by playing music on tuned instruments (e.g. piano, glockenspiel, 	<p>Year 8:</p> <p>Extending Your Musical Skills</p> <p>Through repertoire, pupils will develop their ensemble skills including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rhythm/beat patterns through Samba, pop and rock songs, words and numbers, and syncopation (offbeat rhythms) • Pitch (high-low sounds) by creating harmony through drones, riffs, 	<p>Year 9:</p> <p>Using Technology in Music and Music Production</p> <p>Pupils will develop their music technology and production skills by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring a range of music software • Editing, composing, and remixing pre-made loops/samples • Exploring song structure • Using midi instruments to 	<p>Pathways Options Years 10 – 14 (KS4/ KS5):</p> <p>Pupils will have the opportunity to achieve a Bronze Arts Award. Arts Awards are regulated by Ofqual, and Bronze provides a Level 1 qualification on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF). This qualification is working at the same standard as GCSE grades 3–1.</p> <p>Pupils will have up to two years to develop a portfolio of creative work (e.g. recordings, posters, photographs, and film documenting events, blogs, audio interviews, and a learning diary), covering the following mandatory modules:</p> <p>Part A (Explore the Arts as a Participant)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop their own creative practice (e.g. music production or instrumental skills) • Participate in any art form (music) • Improve their personal arts practice (music) <p>PART B (Explore the Arts as an Audience Member)</p>
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<p>guitar, voice) using colour and shapes/symbols to create and play pentatonic melodies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Composition skills drawing on their rhythm and pitch knowledge plus beatboxing, words and sounds, and body percussion	<p>basslines, and the blues scale</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop new instrumental skills (which may include piano, percussion, guitar, and drum kit)• Perform and compose with chords (clusters of notes together)• Arrange existing/original compositions	<p>create original loops /samples</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recording audio and operating the studio and vocal booth• Manipulating sound through effects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review a music or an arts event• Experience of a music event• Reflection on the quality of the music event• Share opinions of music event <p>Part C (Arts Inspiration)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research their musical inspiration• Research into and appreciation of the work of your chosen musical artist or practitioner <p>Part D (Art Skill Share: Passing on Art Skills to Others)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Share their creative skills with others <p>Through these modules, and to meet the qualification criteria, pupils will develop their:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Art form knowledge and understanding• Creativity• Planning and sequencing skills• Communication, research, and reflection capabilities
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How you can support your child in Music:

You can support your child by encouraging them to experience a wide range of music (live, recorded, online) and to express their opinions about it. You could also encourage them to join a music group outside of school e.g. Kinetika Bloco (Carnival Arts) and Raw Materials (music and creative production) both run free programmes after school and in the holidays and have experience supporting pupils with SEN. Lambeth Music Service offers instrumental lessons for SEN learners (discounts available for low-income families, and Pupil Premium learners).

Please keep in touch with the Music section should you feel your child is struggling or needs more challenge – let us know. Emails can be sent to: admin@elmcourt.lambeth.sch.uk