

## How to help your child

### Subject: Music

	<b>How to help your child</b>
<b>Year 7</b>	<p>Look through your child's Booklet and help her with any Key terms and to look ahead at what she is learning</p> <p>Talking to your child about their learning in the subject and testing them on their knowledge</p> <p>Watching and listening to any Music that is unfamiliar to them in particular for year 7 – Blues, Rap and Salsa</p> <p>Encourage them to learn an instrument / get involved in the Music Dept extra-curricular. Including concerts and shows.</p>
<b>Year 8</b>	<p>Look through your child's Booklet and help her with any Key terms and to look ahead at what she is learning</p> <p>Talking to your child about their learning in the subject and testing them on their knowledge</p> <p>Watching and listening to any Music that is unfamiliar to them in particular for year 8 – Reggae</p> <p>Encourage them to learn an instrument / get involved in the Music Dept extra-curricular. Including concerts and shows.</p>
<b>Year 9</b>	<p>Look through your child's Booklet and help her with any Key terms and to look ahead at what she is learning</p> <p>Talking to your child about their learning in the subject and testing them on their knowledge</p> <p>Watching and listening to any Music that is unfamiliar to them in particular for year 9 – Film and Game Music</p> <p>Encourage them to learn an instrument / get involved in the Music Dept extra-curricular. Including concerts and shows.</p> <p>Where possible attend live Music events / stage shows</p>
<b>Year 10</b>	<p><u>Performance</u></p> <p>Parents – listen out for practice at home. They should be playing for 15 minutes. If you don't hear much then they aren't practising enough. Encourage them to play at different times of the day.</p> <p>Students – leave your phone outside your room and try and practise in school where there are less distractions.</p> <p>Parents – ask your child to perform their piece to you. This will help them build their confidence. It will also be clear to you, even if not musical, if they are making progress.</p>

Students – make sure you perform as much as you can - to your parents, friends or phone recorder. Listen back to yourself and see where you make mistakes. Make sure you play with other students.

Parents – make sure your child is having lessons and where possible, using backing tracks to play along with at home.

### Composition

You need to spend time on your piece outside of lesson time. It won't get better without those chunks of time.

You don't need Sibelius or indeed a computer to work on your composition.

Parents – ask to hear their composition and ask them what it is about. Chat about the piece and ask them what they are doing to create it. You don't need to understand the musical terms, but it will be clear if they know what they are doing. They need headphones and access to music streaming where possible.

Students – make sure your piece is telling a story and has a clear theme or idea behind it. Also make sure that you ask for help and listen to other pieces to gain inspiration.

### Exam preparation

You don't need a textbook, you will give you all the notes you need. They are also all online.

Parents – have you listened to the set works? If not then have a listen and ask your child to talk you through the pieces. It will be clear how well they know them! Take them to see live music where possible.

Students – listen to as much music as you can, and get used to spotting key features. Talk about these pieces in class and with your friends to increase your knowledge and vocabulary.

Parents – they need to be able to write about music. If you listen to the pieces and then read their essays you could chat to them about how well they are coming across – and a non-specialist will often give a good review as you will be able to decide if you understand more as a result of reading their work.

Students – how organised is your music folder? Do you have the coloured pens? Have you annotated your anthology?

Parents – please make sure they have the coloured pens, a neat folder and ask to see their anthology and look out for lots of coloured pen markings!

## **Year 11**

Performances and composition 1 should be largely finished by the beginning of year 11. And all coursework completed by February half term.

Students should be focusing their revision on set works and extended answer questions.

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