

## OVERVIEW

In Year 8, students will broaden their understanding of the interrelated musical dimensions through whole class ensemble work playing a range of different band instruments such as keyboards, guitars, bass guitar, drums, glockenspiels, percussion. They will encounter a range of genres, including: Classical, Romantic, Reggae, Mento, Ska, West African drumming, Blues and Jazz, RnB and Rock n Roll.

## Aut

**Tonality and Structure**

- develop instrumental skill alongside new knowledge acquisition.
- study of 'set work' performance piece: 'In the Hall of the Mountain King' by Grieg
- Students learn and identify major, minor, chromatic and pentatonic scales, binary, ternary and variation form and performance directions.
- Students create a composition based on In the Hall of the Mountain King for a new ride at Alton Towers.

**Assessment:**

- Keywords assessment
- Performance of 'In the hall of the mountain King' on keys/uke/guitar
- Alton towers composition created using soundtrap.

## Spr

**Ensemble Musician – Jamaican music**

- Study of a variety of popular styles from Jamaica (mento, ska and reggae)
- Musical features/characteristics
- Learn about major, minor chords and their construction, the primary chords, root position (and inversions)
- Perform 'Take me back to Jamaica', 'Three little birds'

**Assessment:**

- Keywords assessment
- Performance of 'Take me back to Jamaica'
- Performance of Three little birds 'skank' chords on soundtrap with actual song backing.

## Sum

**The Creative Musician – The Blues**

- Learning about 12 bar blues chord sequence, blues scale, lyric structure through listening, appraising and performance.
- Perform 12 bar blues chord structure
- Dominant 7<sup>th</sup> chords
- Walking bass
- Blues scale
- Students analyse structure of a blues verse (and write their own lyrics)
- Build improvisation skills.

**Assessment:**

- Keywords assessment
- Performance of 12 bar blues chords in 'swung' style.
- 'Stinky feet blues' melody and improvisation on soundtrap or as part of ensemble.

**Useful resources for supporting your child at home:**

[KS3 Music - BBC Bitesize](#)

[Yr 8 SCA Knowledge Organiser Booklet](#)

[soundtrap.com](http://soundtrap.com)

[Chrome Music Lab \(chromeexperiments.com\)](http://chromeexperiments.com)

**Homework:**

Weekly practice on Instruments.

Please see ASPIRE timetable for music clubs and practice sessions