

Our Curriculum: Music

<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">INTENT</p>	<p>All students at The Boulevard Academy will have the opportunity to study Music as part of their KS3 curriculum. The KS3 curriculum has been designed to ensure students are able to build upon what they have been taught in their KS2 curriculum in primary school, regardless of their starting point. Students in Year 7 and 8 will undertake one lesson a week and will then move to a rotation system in Year 9 - The Gateway to GCSEs. Students will then have the opportunity to pick Music as a KS4 option if they wish to continue their music education in Years 10 and 11. The aim of our music curriculum is to offer our students the opportunity to be apart of a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity, within one of the UK's largest industries. There will be a focus on the three main skill areas within music. 'listening and understanding', 'performance' and 'composition'. We want to enable students to develop a love and appreciation of a number of different music styles, whilst being able to build a critical understanding of music, allowing them to perform music from some of the key composers who have shaped music history and communicate their emotions and explore how music is created through composition. Music as a subject supports the school's ethos, most notably by allowing students to demonstrate their joy of learning by expressing themselves through performance and composition. It also supports our ethos of community through whole class, paired and group performance opportunities.</p> <p>The careful design of the music curriculum ensures that as a subject we are able to promote the school's core values within music lessons, with the consideration of the music styles studied and tasks incorporated into lessons to ensure students are able to demonstrate resilience, empathy, self-awareness, passion, engagement, communication and teamwork.</p> <p>Beyond curriculum learning, as a music department we offer a wide range of extra-curricular opportunities for those students who wish to further develop their musical skills and abilities. Instrumental lessons are also available through the support of the staff at Hull Music Service. We also have an exciting range of musical ensembles and clubs all students are available to join, allowing them to work alongside with other musicians and to continue to develop their performance skills, understanding and love of music.</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">IMPLEMENTATION</p>	<p>The Music curriculum at The Boulevard Academy is built by embedding the three key skills of music 'listening and understanding', 'performance' and 'composition' into a vast variety of music styles. Students will learn about the musical elements in their first term at The Boulevard Academy, which are the building blocks of music. They will then go on to build their understanding of these musical elements through the study of key musical styles, so that knowledge can be embedded into students' long-term memory, whilst exploring the styles, composers and musicians that shaped our music history. In key stage three, students will study a large range of music styles dating back as far as the 1600s (Baroque Music) and right up to current day music styles, for example the ever-increasing popularity of Video Game Music. As well as studying the musical side of these styles, students will be taught the historical and cultural links that many of these styles have within our history, for example 'The Blues' and it's links to the African-American Slave Trade, 'Reggae' and it's religious links to the Rastafarian movement and the oppression of Jamaican people and 'African Drumming' and how it used to be a tool of communication originally before developing over time as an art form for celebration. The musical styles in the KS3 curriculum have been carefully picked with consideration of current music trends and students interests, whilst also ensuring the national curriculum is covered.</p> <p>In KS4, students will continue and build upon their study of a range of music styles in more depth, revisiting previous styles taught and exploring new styles with a higher level of understanding and application in performance and compositional tasks. The KS4 course selected allows students to take some ownership over their learning and select musical styles they would be most interested in learning about, which will help ensure good student engagement.</p> <p>Across both KS3 and KS4, lessons have been designed to ensure all learning styles are accounted for, through ensuring visual, audio and kinaesthetic learning methods are embedded within the curriculum so all students are able to key terminology and skills within music. Lessons have also been designed to ensure students are able to explore key terms and techniques found within music by applying these in a practical manner, through a performance or compositional task. Students will also learn to perform as a soloist and within an ensemble setting to ensure the development of the two different performance skills. Progress checks will be used to allow students to demonstrate their understanding and give teaching staff the information they need to inform future planning and resources to support students. Progress checks will be completed in line with the assessment policy and are evident in both the LTP and MTPs for music. The understanding and application of the musical elements play a large part of a student's ability to access key stage 3 and 4 content, therefore retrieval practice is embedded throughout the music curriculum to support with this. Also, meaningful homework will be used to further embed knowledge learnt within lessons. The heart of the Music curriculum is to develop the students love of music and their understanding of how music is created. The music curriculum has been designed to with this in mind, through careful selection of KS3 topics and KS4 courses.</p>
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">IMPACT</p>	<p>As stated above the aim of the Music curriculum is to develop the students love of music and their understanding of how music is created, whilst equipping them with the skills needed to achieve in key stage four and in their future studies post-key stage four. Students will be engaged in their music learning journey through learning the musical elements and applying these in practical activities such as performance or composition tasks. This will allow students to deepen their understanding of the musical elements through the practical application of these within the different musical styles studied. Through this curriculum alongside the musical skills they will develop, students will also develop life skills such as resilience, teamwork, independence, creativity and critical listening. Students will be more aware of music they are exposed to in and out of a classroom, by understanding how it is created and where it fits into the bigger picture, culturally and historically.</p>