

**Course: MUSIC, Year 4-5**  
**Complementary course – 2 periods per week**

**Content:**

The syllabus for Years 4-5 is topic-based and builds upon the skills, knowledge and understanding that pupils have developed in Years 1-3. It reflects the principles and the rationale that young people's musical learning should take place through musical encounters involving creating, performing and listening to music.

In Years 4-5 students are asked to develop further their musical knowledge, skills and understanding in the context of in-depth studies of a range of musical genres, styles and traditions. This approach is based upon the belief that to gain a meaningful understanding of music one needs to be aware of its context, its history and its potential for future development. Topics included reflect the breadth and variety of music genres and traditions across the world and particularly a focus on European music in all its diversity.

*Five topics and a final project*

Over the course of the two years, students will study *five topics* from the list below (approximately one per term). In addition, there is a *final project* (approximately 25 hours of study time) which takes place in the second semester of Year 5. The content, form and organisation of this project should be negotiated with each student and personalised to meet and reflect his or her particular needs, interests, and aspirations.

- Music for film
- Contemporary musical styles and cultures
- Music for dance
- Music for particular occasions
- Musical theatre
- European folk traditions
- Music and voice
- Programme music in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century
- Composing during the last 100 years

**Final Project: portfolio presentation of personal musicianship:**

This project should be chosen by the student, personalised and focus particularly on individual students' musical interests, aspirations and strengths. It should bring together the musical knowledge, skills and understanding developed during Years 4 and 5. Where appropriate, the final project may serve as means of enabling effective transition from Year 5 to Years 6-7. The project may take form of preparing an individual or group performance, composition, multi-media presentation or a combination of these.

**Information on tests, exams and (eventually) BAC:**

Two practical test will be given each semester of each year for B-marks. A-marks will be based on course work and/or projects and other less formal tests.