Our Music curriculum is designed to inspire creativity, build confidence and develop a lifelong appreciation of music. Students in Years 7, 8 and 9 receive one music lesson every two weeks, developing their skills and knowledge across three key areas: **Performance, Composition and Analysis**.

Through practical music-making, creative projects and critical listening, students explore a wide range of musical styles and traditions. From learning instruments and performing together to composing original music using traditional techniques and modern music technology, our curriculum encourages students to become confident, creative and knowledgeable musicians.

We are committed to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to discover and develop their musical potential. Alongside classroom learning, **students in all year groups can access fully funded instrumental and vocal lessons**, removing financial barriers to musical participation. Our current offer includes **guitar, drumming and vocal tuition**.

Through these opportunities, we aim to nurture individual talents, promote self-expression and equip students with the musical skills, knowledge and confidence to enjoy, create and appreciate music both within and beyond school.

MUSIC CURRICULUM | UNIT SKILLS AT A GLANCE

Soar Valley · Years 7–9 · 2026–2027

UNIT / TERM	YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	CURRICULUM FOCUS
Autumn units	**Elements of Music:** Dynamics, tempo and rhythm; texture, pitch and harmony; identifying musical structure.	**Reggae / Offbeat:** Recognising reggae features; playing offbeat chords and melodic riffs; performing on ukulele or keyboard.	**Blues Bands**: Playing the 12-bar blues; walking bass lines and blues drumming; ensemble performance and improvisation.	Performance · Analysis
Spring units	**Composition Skills**: Reading treble and bass clef notation; constructing chord patterns and melodies; performing original pieces on keyboard.	**Offbeat Remix / Production:** Recording chords and basslines in Ableton; programming beats; using effects and refining a remix.	**Band Project / Songwriting**: Improvising and playing basslines; working as an ensemble; exploring how riffs help make effective songs.	Composition · Performance
Spring–summer units	**Composition Skills** (continued): Developing a melody from chords; playing a completed composition; evaluating musical choices.	**Theme and Variation:** Recognising a theme; creating rhythmic and melodic variations; applying changes using Ableton.	**Music in Media:** Analysing character themes and leitmotifs; creating sound effects and underscore; timing music to on-screen action.	Composition · Analysis
Summer units	**Four Chord Songs**: Reading ukulele chord diagrams; changing between chords and strumming patterns; performing in an ensemble.	**All About the Bass:** Playing walking and Alberti bass patterns; learning bass riffs; developing bass guitar performance.	**Music in Media (continued)**: Composing a character theme; altering mood through musical choices; rehearsing and performing a final piece.	Performance · Composition