



# St Benedict's Catholic School

The Catholic Secondary School for West Suffolk

## MUSIC CURRICULUM GUIDE

### Year 8

#### General Introduction

The love and appreciation of Music adds so much to the quality of our lives. As we deepen our engagement in Music, whether by performing, composing or listening attentively to it, we come to appreciate what a wonderful gift it is. At St Benedict's we aim to give pupils of all musical backgrounds a very positive experience of the subject. We encourage them to pursue their interest beyond the classroom and many take advantage of instrumental tuition which the school provides at very favourable rates. There are composition and theory clubs after school as well as choral and instrumental ensembles.

**At KS3** pupils are encouraged to bring their instruments to the classroom so that they can perform and improvise music in groups. They learn how different musical features have been used at various times to create music in different styles and within different cultures. Pupils consolidate and extend their knowledge of musical notation so that they can compose successfully in a variety of ways. They learn to use Sibelius software to sequence and record their compositions. In Year 9 pupils learn how Music played a part in the 20<sup>th</sup> struggles against injustice and totalitarianism.

#### Year 8 Curriculum Summary:

	Performing	Composing	Listening/Appraising
<b>Year 8 Autumn</b>	Songs (incl. Renaissance songs) Instrumental Arrangement of 'Time Lapse' by Michael Nyman	Ground Bass Composition in the Baroque Style	Major & minor scales; chords and inversions; passing notes; sharps and flats; keyboard instruments; melodic features; baroque forms.
<b>Year 8 Spring</b>	Keyboard Performance of some Popular Riffs from Film and Television	Composing a Film Score	Phrasing; melodic motifs and their manipulation; extended chords.
<b>Year 8 Summer</b>	Ensemble Arrangement of a Classical Theme	Theme and Variations in the Classical Style	Classical harmony; cadences; triplet and dotted rhythms; classical forms.