The Music Curriculum

Overall curriculum intent	The De La Salle Music curriculum intends to create learners with a deep understanding of the power of performance, a confidence to present their own ideas through composition, and Oracy and listening skills to explore, analyse and evaluate music through a variety of genres.
Culture	Making music, performing to one another, building resilience, working together as a team and an ethos of accepting the next challenge.
Skills	Teamwork, organisation, confidence, leadership, determination, communication and punctuality
Analysis and Evaluation	Throughout music students will consistently and thoroughly analyse and evaluate the music they are listening, composing or performing. Students will constructively critique the work they have produced and also on the work of others.
Social and Historical understanding	Students throughout their studies in music will showcase their understanding of the social and historical through listening to a variety of music. Students will comment on the significance of the period of history on genres of music and why it was written in this way?
Sequenced learning	Students within music will take part in a range of activities. The activities themselves will originate through listening to music. Students will compose music that reflects the style they are studying. Students will perform music that is both to the highest calibre and fluent.

Year 7	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
	Core Skills This unit will develop the fundamentals of music. Through a series of practical and appraising activities, pupils learn about elements of music, such as pitch and rhythm. By the end of the unit, pupils should feel confident in playing melodies on the keyboard and being able to describe musical features of music through listening.	**Theme and Variation** During terms 3 and 4, pupils will develop knowledge of music in the form of theme and variation. Through performing, composing and appraising music, pupils will deepen their understanding of the form of music and also learn about the composer's lives.	**Ensemble Skills** This unit will focus pupils learning about common ensembles in music, ranging from classical, jazz and pop music. Pupils will investigate the skills required to perform in an ensemble through practical exploration and appraising activities. **Revisit** The end of term unit is designed to revisit the work taught throughout the year to reinforce what has been

			taught, to address any misconceptions and prepare pupils for their end of year assessment.

Year 8	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
	Exploring chords The exploring chords unit is to introduce pupils to harmony in music, focussing on developing pupils' knowledge of being able to play chords. Throughout the term pupils will be developing their instrumental skills, composing and appraising music. **Pop chords and sequences** Following on from the unit exploring chords, pupils will be exploring common chord sequences in pop music and how composers use techniques to keep them sounding like new songs. Pupils will also look at how technology has been used to add effect to sounds and shape the music we listen to today.	**Syncopated rhythms** Pupils will be learning how syncopated rhythms have become a regular musical device of music. Pupils will be learning music from different styles, being able to identify this musical feature in songs through practical and appraising tasks. **Blues and Rock'n'Roll** In term 4, pupils will be comparing 2 styles of music to develop their skills in being able to compare and evaluate music. Pupils will also be learning about musical features of this style of music and how musicians shaped some of the music we listen to today.	**Pop past and future** The pop past and future unit looks into how this style of music has changed in the last 60 years. Comparing the pop music of the 1960's and 70's to the music of today. Pupils will research into the culture of pop, how its identity is linked to youth and how the recording industry grew to power. **Revisit** The end of term unit is designed to revisit the work taught throughout the year to reinforce what has been taught, to address any misconceptions and prepare pupils for their end of year assessment.

Year 9	Autumn Term	Spring Term	Summer Term
	It's all about the bass During this unit pupils will explore the development of bass instruments and the role they have in ensembles. Through the use of bass clef	**Surf Music - America's sound.** America's response to the phenomenon of the explosive British music scene in the 1960's. Pupils this term will be researching what is surf music,	**Romantic Melodies** This unit will delve into how music is played expressively, looking at compositional devices and techniques used by

notation and bass tab, pupils will develop their skills in reading these forms of notation, whilst learning famous bass lines from different styles of music. **Homophonic music** Homophonic music is a common form of today's pop music. This term we will be investigating why this texture of music is popular to compose in and also learn to perform popular songs.	how it created its unique sound and why it is still popular in today's society. **Film music and computer gaming** Film music and computer gaming is a multi-million-pound industry and continues to grow in strength. Pupils will learn about how music was introduced to film and computer gaming, looking at the technique's composers use to enhance images, whilst learning to compose and play music from the style.	composers, who have created some of the most expressive music since the 1800's. **My Music** Our final unit in KS3 for music, gives pupils the opportunity to explore music of their own, either through composition or performing. The work will be recorded and showcased as a celebration of completing KS3.

Year 10	Autumn term	Spring term	Summer term
	Area Study 1 – Forms and Devices Students in GCSE Music will build on their listening, composing and performing skills by looking at music from Baroque (1650) to 20th century (1910). Students will compose in the style of each of these musical periods to showcase understanding. Students will perform music from Baroque to 20th century to showcase their	Area Study 3 – Film Music Students in this section of the GCSE specification will be studying music for film. Students will be listening, composing and performing to a wide range of music for film. Students additionally will take these same skills and apply them to their compositions project starting at the end of Year 10.	Composing to a brief Students in this final term will be listening and composing to a variety of briefs. Students throughout this time will build on their compositions skills to help them be ready for their composition's coursework and the beginning of Year 11. Free Composition Students throughout this topic will be listening, composing and performing to their own free composition.

	improved keyboard and performing skills.

Area Study 2 – Music for Ensemble

Students in this section of the GCSE specification will be listening, composing and performing from a wide range of genres from ensemble music work.

Students will study music from; Blues, jazz, musical theatre and chamber music. Students will further their understanding of these genres by performing this music in small groups to gain a further familiarity of music for ensemble. | Area Study 4 – Popular Music

Students in this section of their GCSE music specification will be looking at pop, rock, bhangra and further fusions of popular music.

Students as always will be listening, composing and performing music from all of these genres and more to further their understanding and application of music in the popular music genre. | Students will compose their own music inspired by the areas of study they have looked at this year.

Students are doing this to prepare themselves for the free composition set from the beginning of Year 11. |

Year 11	**Autumn term**	**Spring term**	**Summer Term**
	Area Study 1 – Revisited

Students throughout this revisited section of area study 1 will endeavour to use the listening, performing and composing skills on new repertoire to showcase reinforced | Area Study 3 – Revisited

Students throughout this revisited section of area study 3 will build on the listening, composing and performing skills developed from the | Exams |

	understanding from Year 10.	beginning of area study 3 in year 10.	
	Additionally, students will continue to recall key terminology and knowledge of Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods through music making and performing.	Students differently this time around will be focussing on bringing to life key film music techniques within their briefed compositions and free compositions.	
	Area Study 2 – Revisited	Area Study 4 – Revisited	
	Students throughout this revisited section of area study 2 will continue to develop their listening, composing and performing skills around musicals, jazz, blues and chamber music.	Students in this final revisit of area study 4 will continue to build on the listening, performing and composing skills from area study 3 in year 10.	
	Students differently this time around will focus particularly on understanding these genres in a practical sense. Students will be performing repertoire that will be inspiring their ensemble performances.	Students differently this time around will use this reinforced practice to act on their solo and ensemble performances ready for recording.	