



How does this unit link to prior learning?	
THE BLUES PROJECT – Building on the keyboard performance and music technology skills developed in Year 7, students apply their understanding of pulse, rhythm, pitch, melody and harmony through the study of Blues music. They revisit notation, keyboard technique and ensemble performance whilst developing greater confidence in improvisation, accompaniment and musical expression.	
What will you be learning about?	
Throughout this unit, students will explore the origins and influence of Blues music whilst developing their practical keyboard performance skills. They will learn the 12-bar blues chord sequence, perform basslines, melodies and riffs, and develop improvisation using the Blues scale. Students will work collaboratively to rehearse, perform and evaluate Blues-inspired music, gaining an understanding of how the Blues has shaped many styles of modern popular music.	
D – Work collaboratively during rehearsals and performances. R – Respect instruments, equipment and classroom expectations. T – Appreciate musical traditions from different cultures. I – Develop confidence by performing and sharing musical ideas. M – Support and encourage others during rehearsals and performances.	
We will develop our learning each week by focusing on:	
1. We are learning about the origins and features of Blues music.	RAG
2. We are learning how to perform the 12-bar blues chord progression.	
3. We are learning how basslines and riffs create the Blues sound.	
4. We are learning how to perform melodies using the Blues scale.	
5. We are learning how to improvise using the Blues scale.	
6. We are learning how to combine chords, basslines and melodies in an ensemble performance.	
7. We are learning how to rehearse and refine a Blues performance.	
8. We are learning how to perform, evaluate and reflect on our Blues performance.	
Key vocabulary	
Blues • 12-Bar Blues • Chord Progression • Blues Scale • Improvisation • Bassline • Riff • Shuffle Rhythm • Melody • Harmony	

How will this help you in the future?	
KS4: Develops keyboard performance, improvisation, ensemble performance and composition skills needed for further study in Music and Performing Arts.	Beyond LHS: Builds confidence, creativity, communication and teamwork whilst developing an appreciation of Blues music and its influence on rock, pop, jazz and other contemporary genres.