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MUSIC Tech KS5 Curriculum Map 2021-22

Yr12 (KS5) Music Tech	Topic Area	Knowledge/Skills that are taught	Knowledge/Skills revisited	What does good look like?	Resources/support at home
Autumn 1	**Recording**	Students will learn about : advance functions of a digital audio workstation (DAW) Range of hardware: microphones, audio interfaces; pre-amps; DI boxes; mixing desks; outboard effects; guitar pedals	The core functions of a digital audio workstation (DAW)	Apply music vocabulary within the correct context in discussion and essays. Identify the different microphones, consider the placement of microphones and the influence of the room on the recorded result.	Prior recordings to help understand the mark scheme Log books from previous students Logic Pro X Midi Keyboards iMac Computers
	Technology-based Composition	Introduction to the Technology based composition - **Sequencing**: inputting of notes using DAW.	Recall of MIDI keyboard and step grid editor	Input notes with confidence using both 'real time' input and 'pencil tool'	Digital Studio/Suite Percussion and keyboard recording workshops
	Listening and analysing	**Popular Music from 1930 - 1963 (Direct to tape mono recording)** Students will research the different eras of recording and production technology	Recognise the different instruments and voices associated with the following styles:jazz; band; rock'n' roll and rock Pre-multi track recording restrictions.	Makes detailed and accurate analysis of production techniques Responses to questions demonstrate an awareness of technological terms and vocabulary	Music Technology Club Youtube tutorials
	Producing and analysing	Students will focus on the handling and mixing of audio	Mastering parameters: stereo width; master reverb wet/dry mix; EQ e.g. HPF	Edit of Stems provided will be convincing and the balance will be mostly successful.	
Autumn 2	**Recording**	**Capture of sound:** use of microphones and DI to capture successful takes and use intermediate mixing skills to edit and blend the tracks	Set up and recording of drum kit and keyboard instruments	Log book demonstrates detailed reporting of the different recording requirements.	Prior recordings to help understand the mark scheme Log books from previous students

	Technology-based Composition	**Sampling:** researching and choosing appropriate samples for composition brief. Students will also develop skills in cutting, trimming and tuning samples	Recall inserting mp3s into Logic and selecting preferred sections for further editing.	Samples are appropriate to the brief. They are varied and have excellent potential for development.	Logic Pro X Midi Keyboards iMac Computers

Digital Studio/Suite |
| | **Listening and analysing**

Producing and analysing | **1964 - 1969: (Early Multi-track recording)** - key attributes and the use of technology. Students will analyse critically and comment on music production techniques and their impact on music styles.

Analogue technology and vocal production techniques and how they have developed through the ages.

MIDI/sequencing theory - importing a MIDI file from the materials provided. Advanced processes e.g. noise gating and distortion | Recognise the different instruments and voices associated with the following styles: rock'n'roll or R&B (The Beatles) Recall instruments and equipment relevant to this time frame. Recognise playing techniques and recording limitations.

REcall of the MIDI control keyboard, drum editor, quantise, piano roll and list editor. | Extended essays will have demonstrated a clear knowledge and understanding of the technology, evaluating its impact.

Sequenced tracks will demonstrate confident responses to Input (real and non-real time), quantisation and general editing. | Percussion and keyboard recording workshops

Music Technology Club

Youtube tutorials |
| Spring 1 | **Recording**

Technology-based Composition | **Audio Editing**: Students will develop skills in truncating, pitch and rhythm correction and manipulation as well as automation.

Start Composition. Decide genre/style and investigate characteristics such as structure, tempo, instrumentation and use of samples. | Remembering MIDI and sequencing theory including importing of materials.

Recognise use of samples in songs. Consider the different manipulations and their overall effect. | Produces a recording with evidence of correction of pitch, rhythm and dynamic shaping.

The student managed to write with a consistent style, embracing their chosen genre with some sense of development and progression. | Prior recordings to help understand the mark scheme

Log books from previous students

Logic Pro X Midi Keyboards iMac Computers |

	Listening and analysing	**1964 - 1969: (Early Multi-track recording)** - key attributes and the use of technology. Students will analyse critically and comment on music production techniques and their impact on music styles.	Recognise the different instruments and voices associated with the following styles: Rock, R'n'B , The Beatles	Apply and transfer music vocabulary across different extracts of music heard.	Digital Studio/Suite
					Percussion and keyboard recording workshops
	Producing and analysing	Pitch manipulation, rhythm and frequency response. Students will learn how to correct inaccuracies in pitch, rhythm and to create parameters that allow greater control	Remember how to manually tune individual notes, cut and move notes that are out of time.	Tracks are accurate rhythmically and tuning is secure.	Music Technology Club Youtube tutorials
Spring 2	**Recording**	**Dynamic Processing**: EQ, compression and gating.	Recall of situations when limiting would be used, the compressor threshold, ratio and make - up gain; ADSR	Mixing tasks will include detailed corrective EQ, compression and gating.	Prior recordings to help understand the mark scheme
	Technology-based Composition	**Elements of Music**: Students will learn about tonality, harmony, texture, melody and rhythm and consider their importance in ensuring contrast and cohesion in the piece.	Structuring a composition using intro, verse, chorus, drop, bridge outro.	Compositions will have a clear structure identified in the Logic file. Melody and tonality will shape the music.	Log books from previous students Logic Pro X Midi Keyboards iMac Computers
	Listening and analysing	**1969 - 1995: (Large Scale Analogue Multitrack) -** Students will learn about the key attributes of this time and the use of technology. Students will analyse critically and comment on music production techniques and their impact on music styles.	Recognise the different instruments and voices associated with the following styles: metal, punk, soul, disco and funk, reggae, acoustic and folk, commercial pop, dance	Extended essays will have demonstrated a clear knowledge and understanding of the technology, evaluating its impact.	Digital Studio/Suite Percussion and keyboard recording workshops Music Technology Club

	Producing and analysing	**Analogue recordings**: Students will learn about analogue synthesisers/electric instruments such as electric guitar and bass guitar. **Automation & Dynamic Processing.** Students will apply knowledge of panning, plug-ins compression and gating.	Recognise fades and movements in the stereo field. Cut off frequency and delay feedback.	Can identify and apply knowledge of situations when the compressor and/or gate is used.	Youtube tutorials
Summer 1	**Recording**	**Stereo and EQ**: Setting pan positions for individual parts (tracks, instruments and /or vocals) in a recording Different types of EQ in a recording	Recall of knowledge of low shelf; high shelf; band; LPF; HPF and BPF; Gain; frequency/cut off; resonance	Sample mix will include evidence of correcting problems including sibilance, noise and resonances.	Prior recordings to help understand the mark scheme Log books from previous students
	Technology-based Composition	Final edit of composition - students will use editing skills such as pitch and rhythm correction and manipulation to perfect tracks and implement audio editing and automation for dynamic contrast.	Re-visit Dynamic Processing so that compression and EQ can be applied to the final mix.	Composition will be cohesive and will meet the criteria of the brief. There will be a minimum of 6 appropriate samples that have been manipulated and developed throughout the piece.	Logic Pro X Midi Keyboards iMac Computers Digital Studio/Suite
	Listening and analysing	**1980 - Present day: (Digital recording and sequencing) -** Students will learn about the key attributes of this time and the use of technology. Students will analyse critically and comment on music	Recognise the different instruments and voices associated with the following styles: metal, punk, soul, disco and funk, reggae, acoustic and folk, commercial pop, dance	Extended essays will have demonstrated a clear knowledge and understanding of the technology, evaluating its impact.	Percussion and keyboard recording workshops Music Technology Club

					Youtube tutorials
	Producing and analysing	production techniques and their impact on music styles.			
Summer 2	**Recording**	**Effects**: Reverb (Room; hall; plate; spring; gated; reversed; feedback;), Distortion (overdrive and fuzz) and Tremolo (LFO rate and depth).	Reintroduce methods required for adding effects to a recording using DAW such as reverb, gain and virtual mic placement.	Makes use of basic effects for creative purposes.	Prior recordings to help understand the mark scheme
	Technology-based Composition	**Log books**: Evaluate processes undertaken to produce the final composition. Research of A level briefs for final composition task.	Structuring answers so that log books are not only descriptive but evaluate also.	Log books will be detailed and informative. Processes will be clearly described and decisions fully explained.	Log books from previous students Logic Pro X Midi Keyboards iMac Computers Digital Studio/Suite
	Listening and analysing **Producing and analysing**	**1996 - Present day (Digital Audio Workstations (DAW) and emerging technologies**	Recognise the different instruments and voices associated with the following styles:Music for the media, computer game and film	Extended essays will have demonstrated a clear knowledge and understanding of the technology, evaluating its impact.	Percussion and keyboard recording workshops Music Technology Club Youtube tutorials
Yr13 (KS5) Music Tech	**Topic Area**	**Knowledge/Skills that are taught**	**Knowledge/Skills revisited**	**What does good look like?**	**Resources/support at home**

Autumn 1	**Recording**	**Microphones and Capture** Research and preparation for recording project. Microphone techniques : investigation of polar patterns and stereo field.	Revision of choice of microphone, positioning for accurate and effective capture	Initial recording of instruments is successful without unnecessary spill or excessive reverb.	Prior recordings to help understand the mark scheme
					Log books from previous students
	Technology-based Composition	**MIDI and sampling:** Students will explore a range of MIDI and creative sampling techniques that will be used to develop the compositions such as Loop points, crossfades, transposing, reversing, stuttering, velocity layering	Revision of basic skills such as cutting/trimming, tuning, filter and envelope.	There will be clear evidence that the sampling uses a range of manipulation methods such as pitching, stretching, gapping, stuttering, rather than simple drag n drop. Samples play an integral part in the music, sonically, rhythmically and structurally appropriate.	Logic Pro X Midi Keyboards iMac Computers Digital Studio/Suite
	Listening and analysing	The Impact of digital and sampling technology. Students will develop knowledge of Pitch mapping, editing samples, looping and advanced parameters.	Recall Transposing, cutting and trimming, loop points, crossfade looping. More advanced parameters require further revision of bit depth, velocity layering, time-stretch, reverse, filters and envelopes.	Makes detailed comparisons between two recordings reaching well supported conclusions.	Percussion and keyboard recording workshops Music Technology Club
	Producing and analysing	Advanced MIDI in practice	Revision of DAW, DI and interface.	Gives detailed and accurate analysis and deconstruction of production techniques used with logical chains of reasoning.	Youtube tutorials
Autumn 2	**Recording**	**Mixing** to include the more complex parameters of dynamics processors including side chains.	Students will revisit how processes such as compression and gating are combined with EQ and time based effects to produce a more professional	Recording will present a narrow dynamic range with unnecessary frequencies removed.	Prior recordings to help understand the mark scheme Log books from

			final mix.		previous students
	Technology-based Composition	**Synthesis:** Students will cover advanced synthesis parameters including the use of filters and envelopes to shape sound		Synthesis that uses elements of real-time development by filtering, LFOs, enveloping.	Logic Pro X Midi Keyboards iMac Computers
	Listening and analysing	The impact of analogue technology		Makes detailed comparisons between two recordings reaching well supported conclusions.	Digital Studio/Suite
	Producing and analysing	Studio interconnection, microphones and acoustics. Students will learn about the advantages and disadvantages of microphone types, polar pattern and acoustics of the live room.	Recognising the difference between microphones, cardioid; hypercardioid, proximity effect, frequency response and transient response. Demonstrate knowledge of room size, absorption, reflection, isolation booths	Gives detailed and accurate analysis and deconstruction of production techniques used with logical chains of reasoning.	Percussion and keyboard recording workshops Music Technology Club Youtube tutorials
Spring 1	**Recording**	**Advanced audio editing**: Further editing of tracks using audio editing functions such as 'scissor tool', fades and crossfades and inverting waveforms.	Use of the scissor/split track tool which enables accurate editing that will remove unwanted 'clicks' and noise.	The recording will appear more detailed with corrective editing of audio apparent.	
	Technology-based Composition Listening and analysing Producing and analysing	**Dynamic Processing: Advanced automation/plug-ins/Stereo/EQ:** There will be further editing of the composition to include volume and pan automation, cut off frequency and delay feedback.		There is evidence of a detailed approach to production; balance, pan and mix effects, dynamic processing and EQ all given attention and managed successfully.	
Spring 2	**Recording**	**Balance and Blend**: Students will consider the blend of tracks,	Description and evaluation of processes undertaken in	Students have included EQ within the whole mix, which has helped	Prior recordings to help understand the

		instruments and vocals in their final mix using compression, EQ and effects. **Log book** : Refine and finish the accompanying log book	preparation of final recording	with balance and blend. The logbook will appear detailed in terms of choice of microphones and placement - these will include labelled photographs and evaluation.	mark scheme Log books from previous students Logic Pro X Midi Keyboards iMac Computers
	Technology-based Composition	**Effects:** Editing of compositions to include a range of effects. These would include reverb, delay, modulated delay, wah wah pedal, distortion, tremolo and vocal effects.	Revision of all of the settings and effect options on Logic Pro such as bypass settings, gated reverse, ADT Automatic double tracking, flange, chorus and phaser. Aural repetition of tracks treated with different effects .	There will be evidence of creative effects that go beyond basic production effects of reverb and delay. Students will use modulation effects; advanced dynamic processing including side-chaining; distortion, bit-crushing; combination of effects such as delay and flanger.	Digital Studio/Suite Percussion and keyboard recording workshops Music Technology Club Youtube tutorials
	Listening and analysing **Producing and analysing**	Mixing, mastering and comparing production techniques Evaluation of Production scenarios	Logic software to revise EQ, Limiting, Fade in /fade out, HPF. Remember COPIES (CAPTURE, OTHER, PROCESSES, INSTRUMENTS, EFFECTS, SYTHESIS/SAMPLING) which will help students concentrate on the main considerations for discussion.	Makes detailed comparisons between two recordings reaching well supported conclusions. Gives detailed and accurate analysis and deconstruction of production techniques used with logical chains of reasoning.	
Summer 1	**Recording** **Technology-based Composition**	**Final mastering mix** of recording/composition: Students will explore further possibilities of	Recall information relating to sibilance, noise and resonances when using EQ as well as	The logbooks will have a thorough and comprehensive description of editing and	Prior recordings to help understand the mark scheme

		compression, EQ and effects for a more blended recording.	setting different parameters of sound using gain and different filters.	mastering undertaken to produce the final mix.	Log books from previous students
	Listening and analysing Producing and analysing	Exam technique and final revision		Makes detailed comparisons between two recordings reaching well supported conclusions. Gives detailed and accurate analysis and deconstruction of production techniques used with logical chains of reasoning.	Logic Pro X Midi Keyboards iMac Computers

Digital Studio/Suite

Percussion and keyboard recording workshops

Music Technology Club

Youtube tutorials

Past Papers and Mark Schemes |

Summer 2	**Listening and analysing** **Producing and analysing**	Exam technique and final revision			Prior recordings to help understand the mark scheme Log books from previous students Logic Pro X Midi Keyboards iMac Computers Digital Studio/Suite Percussion and keyboard recording workshops Music Technology Club Youtube tutorials Past Papers and Mark schemes