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| **What will we be learning?**  What makes a great solo performance? What work do you need to be doing to prepare for this?  **Component 1: Performing** | **Why this? Why now?**  Performing is at the heart of the study of music. This unit continues with all the work and experience you have accumulated from (and probably before) KS3 and out of school.  This unit allows you to show your practical skills, demonstrate your musicality, and demonstrate your understanding of features of the musical style of the pieces you are performing. | **Key Words:**  **practice** a variety of pieces that develop your skills  demonstrate an understanding of performing with **accuracy** and **fluency**  demonstrate an understanding of performing with **technical control**  demonstrate an understanding of performing musically and with appropriate **expression and interpretation**  understand and be able to perform **confidently and stylishly.** |
| **What will we learn?**  You will learn how to be effective, resourceful and creative in learning music, practicing your instrument (or voice) and developing your performing skills, and planning for a performance of a recognised piece of music (usually a commercially available piece) with accompaniment if appropriate.  (Note: it is possible to also include an ensemble as part of your performance if appropriate.) | |
| **What opportunities are there for wider study?**  As well as regular practice, instrumental lessons, and formal and informal performing opportunities we strongly recommend that you participate in as many music ensembles as possible to further develop your performing skills – with-in or outside school. In particular singers should participate in choirs and instrumentalists should participate in instrumental ensembles before school.  We strongly advise that you develop your performing skills outside of the classroom by having individual instrumental (or singing lessons). You may do this using the school’s peripatetic staff, or choose a private arrangement out of school. You must also practice on a regular basis, which will be monitored by regular reviews of practice diaries and submitting ‘video diaries’ of your development each half term.  You will be expected to contribute to the school’s ensembles and concert opportunities, which will also form the basis of an expected grade. There will be formal performance opportunities through the year: | |
| **How will I be assessed?**  Your performing skills will be assessed on SIX occasions though the year: once each half term, alternating between informal in-class performance and more public occasions (for example the Christmas Concert). These performances, like your final performance, will be assessed on the following criteria: technical control and fluency AND expression and interpretation. The difficulty of the piece performed will influence the final grade. | |

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