**Year 8 – Culture in Performing Arts**

**DANCE** – Year 8 experience cultural dance and experience a range of styles from around the world including Bollywood and Capoeira.  As well as creative strategies, students also learn about performance skills and developing into an effective performer.

**DRAMA** - In year 8, students build on the drama techniques learned in year 7. On this rotation, they cover the history of theatre and study Greek and Elizabethan theatre. Students consider the styles: tragedy, comedy and history and develop their confidence, whilst working independently and in groups.

**MUSIC** – Students in year 8 will begin to extend their musical skills by learning to play pop songs on the keyboard. This unit will embed technical skill as well as consolidating theoretical knowledge. In their second unit pupils continue to look at popular culture, specifically a cappella singing and beatboxing. Work in this unit also explores Blues music.

**Year 7 - Fundamental Skills and Techniques**

**DANCE** - In year 7 Dance lessons, students learn about fundamental dance skills and use actions, dynamics, space and relationships to create group dances based on a given stimulus including 'Magnets and Springs' and 'Graffiti Art'.  The main focus in year 7 is exploration of movement and creative skills.

**DRAMA** - In year 7, students work practically to cover the fundamental skills in Drama. By the end of the Drama rotation, students will have worked in groups to develop devised performances and work on script based material. They will develop their confidence and learn key drama techniques that they will continue in Year 8.

**MUSIC** – Students in year 7 will begin to understand the fundamentals of music through practical exploration. The first unit of work focuses on introducing the basic elements of music through rehearsing and recording a full class mini-musical which embeds skill through performing. The second unit of work embeds and utilises these fundamentals whilst developing instrumental performance skills.

**Subject: Performing Arts Year Group: 7 - 9**

Students in years 7, 8 and 9 receive teaching in Dance, Drama and Music as part of a carousel system and experience a curriculum designed to enhance their knowledge and skills development in each subject. The Key Stage 3 curriculum is designed in the following format:

**Year 7** – Fundamental Skills and Techniques

**Year 8** – Culture in Performing Arts

**Year 9** – Preparing for KS4 curriculum

**Year 9 – Preparing for KS4**

**DANCE -** In year 9 the focus is on introducing students to elements of the GCSE/BTEC Dance option in order to prepare them for Key Stage 4.  Students study two contrasting professional dance works and create dances based on these in small groups.  The focus in year 9 is on choreography, performance and appreciation.

**DRAMA** - In year 9, students work practically on developing their skills required for GCSE level. Students put into practice their knowledge and skills base learned from Year 7 and Year 8 and develop group devised performances and script based material. Students develop their team work, negotiation skills and engage in debates.

**MUSIC** – Students in year 9 will explore the use of music technology as a different medium to compose music. In the first unit students will case study minimalist composers and use appropriate software to sequence their own compositions in this style. In the second unit pupils’ focus on Film Music, providing them with further opportunity to develop performance and composition skills within this genre.

