**Curriculum**

**Jazz Band**

**Course Overview**

This course is intended for woodwind, brass and rhythm section players' with a minimum of three years' playing experience. Players will be introduced to various styles of music, including but not limited to Swing, Latin, Big Band, and Funk. Students study and practice improvisational techniques within the jazz idiom. All members of the Jazz Ensemble are required to perform in two concerts per year.

**Department Standards**

* Students will sing alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
* Students will perform on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
* Students will improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
* Students will compose and arrange music within specified guidelines.
* Students will read and notate music.
* Students will listen to, analyze, and describe music.
* Students will evaluate music and music performances.
* Students will understand relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
* Students will understand music in relation to history and culture.

**Benchmarks**:

Reading and interpreting music notation.

Performing music independently and with others.

Evaluating music through critical thinking and listening skills.

Demonstrating knowledge of music history and cultural heritage.

Demonstrating appropriate rehearsal and performance behaviour.

**Performance Indicators**

Demonstrate confident sound production.

Play a phrase demonstrating an understanding and knowledge of basic music notation.

Establish eye contact with the conductor.

Show an aural awareness while listening to music, with an ability to identify instruments and style of music.

Demonstrate an aural and visual awareness by playing rhythmic patterns with confidence, paying attention to the time and key signatures.

Phrasing a melody with correct articulation and appropriate dynamics.

Working and playing as an instrument section, as well as an ensemble.

Display appropriate on-stage performance behaviour.

Show an understanding of style and historical background while listening to music, with an ability to hear articulation, dynamics and phrasing.

Play a phrase with appropriate articulation and vary the dynamic.

Sight read music with conviction, demonstrate an understanding of the meter, key, articulation and dynamics.

Demonstrate an understanding of rhythmic subdivision when sight reading.

Show an understanding and ability to vary the tempo and dynamic by establishing eye contact with the conductor and following directions appropriately.

Extended practice to master the concert repertoire.

Display good on-stage etiquette and an ambition to give the best performance.

**Assessments**

In-class teacher observations (articulations, music reading skills).

Playing tests in instrument section and class theory discussions.

In-class practice performance.

Formal concert.

Formal end of year concert.

**Core Topics**

Music Literacy: Rhythm, Meter,Articulations & Rudiments.

Syncopation.

Swing Eighth Notes (Quavers).

Developing good practice habits.

Music notation and reading.

Phrasing.

Following a conductor.

Listening skills.

Rhythm patterns.

Time Signatures.

Key Signatures.

Phrasing and articulation.

Tempo and dynamic terminology.

Preparation of repertoire for formal concert.

Listening critically.

Stylistic and cultural awareness.

Articulation combinations.

Key Changes.

Melodic variation.

Repertoire Expansion.

Contrasting tempos and dynamics.

Rhythmic subdivision.

Advanced sight reading.

Preparation for end of year concert.

**Specific Content**

Recent titles include:

'Sway'

'Hot,Hot,Hot'

'Grooved Pavement'

'Sway'

'Don't Know Why'

'Land of Make Believe'

Recent titles include:

'Moondance'

'Stompin' at the Savoy'

'Birdland'

'Manteca'

'You Make me Feel so Young'

Recent titles include:

'Brick House'

'Smooth'

'Hot Chocolate'

'Poco Loco'

Recent titles include:

'What is Hip'

'On Green Dolphin Street'

'Moanin' '

'Killer Joe'

**Resources**

Individual Scores

CD recordings

Mp3's on the LMS