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| **What will we be learning?**In what ways did the symphony evolve from 1750 to 1900? And why?**Area of study A: The Western Classical Tradition and The Development of the Symphony (1750-1900)** which includes two set works (Symphony No. 104 in D major, ‘London’: Haydn and Symphony No. 4 in A major, ‘Italian’: Mendelssohn). | **Why this? Why now?**Year 13 study takes as a starting the point your detailed understanding of Haydn’s Symphony 104 and a range of other works. You will now develop your understanding of fine detail of the work and will build detailed comparisons with other symphonies between 1750 and 1900 which will clearly demonstrate your knowledge of how the symphony evolved. | **Key Words:**Structure, sonata, rounded binary;Tonality, harmony;Texture;Melodic and thematic development;Sonority and timbre;Harmonic language;Tempo, metre and rhythm;Expressive use of dynamics;Extra-musical context;Decline of basso continuo;Development of the orchestra, instruments of the orchestra;Programmatic music;Audience reception;Score reading, conventions of notation;Chords, chromatic chords, cadences; |
| **What will we learn?**Detailed study of Haydn’s Symphony 104, and general study of a series of other works – including Mendelssohn’s Italian Symphony. We will learn how the symphony evolved, who the key composers of the genre were, and how the music would have been heard by contemporary audiences.You will learn how symphonic movements are structured, using primarily sonata and rounded binary forms; how instrumentation and instrumental techniques evolved over time, and how harmonic and textural techniques grew through the late 18th and 19th Centuries. You will learn how to identify musical features by ear and to transcribe them appropriately.You will learn how to write about music in clear, analytical language. |
| **What opportunities are there for wider study?**As well as listening and discussing a wide range of pieces in class you will also attend a wide range of orchestral repertoire by attending concerts (London Southbank Centre, Poole Lighthouse, Basingstoke Anvil etc). All set works will be supported by study videos on YouTube, and you will be given study scores for independent study.You will be expected to listen to music – which may be unfamiliar to you – on a regular basis, by listening to recordings, Spotify playlists etc. outside the classroom. |
| **How will I be assessed?**There will be a written examination at the end of the course that will assess your listening skills, your familiarity with musical devices used in the repertoire, your specific knowledge of Haydn’s Symphony 104, and the important developments in symphonic writing. |