

# The Music Department

We are a team of committed and enthusiastic teachers who strive to provide stimulating, creative, challenging and inspirational learning to all students, within all classrooms, across all Key Stages 3, 4 and 5. In recent years the department has achieved outstanding progress in pushing results, performances and the quality of music produced by students forward and will continue doing so. The department has a shared office with the Drama team, enabling strong teamwork and consistency across the Performing Arts. As a school we currently hold an arts mark gold exemplar certificate.

In KS3 we have developed a rigorous scheme of work built on developing performing, composing and listening skills ready for GCSE. Our units of work use workshops, informal and formal learning, many of which are pushed through the musical futures pedagogy and philosophy. Students learn a range of styles and genres from rock band to classical, to African music to samba and we even have units where the music making is guided by the students themselves. Our KS3 curriculum reflects the requirements of KS4, with every individual scheme of work being linked in some way to the OCR GCSE specification. In KS4 we are currently working to the OCR GCSE Music specification, allowing our students to be assessed through controlled assessment coursework of 60% (performing and composing) and 40% listening exam.

We boast a mac suite of 12 computers each with midi keyboard and interface and music software of logic, sibilus and gargeband. We have a recording studio also. As well as this we are fully stocked in African, samba, Indian, orchestral, keyboards and rock instruments. We put on a range of performances and shows throughout the year, including a Christmas show, musical with the drama department, performances to primary schools, summer shows and festival appearances to name but a few.

We are experienced in training and coaching new teachers including NQTs, trainees and HLTAs. We offer rigorous mentoring and provide every support to ensure new and developing teachers can achieve their potential. We value all members of the department highly, and ensure the latest training is available to new and established teachers. All marking at every level is standardised across the department during scheduled departmental meetings, ensuring consistency across the department and to allow for accurate tracking of progress.

We are a very unified and motivated department and those teachers with a strong sense of professionalism and dedication are welcome as new members of the team.