

# **MUSIC**

Music part of the Performing Arts Department. All lessons at KS3 and KS4 are taught by one teacher. All KS3 teaching takes place in the music classroom which has an interactive whiteboard with internet access. KS4 lessons are taught in the music classroom, music room 2 which is equipped with 10 Apple Computers and internet access, and a couple of ordinary classrooms with writing desks for theory lessons.

There are 12 keyboards set up around the outside of the music classroom. The centre of the classroom is left empty to allow for music-making to take place and pupils to have room to practice. The department also has 15 guitars, 2 drum kits and 30 ukuleles. There is a range of textbooks to support the KS4 course, along with a photocopier next door. The apple macs have access to Ableton, Garageband, Cubase and Sibelius. There is also a small recording studio and one practice room.

## **Key Stage 3**

Pupils are taught in sets and receive two music lessons a fortnight.

## **Key stage 4**

At KS4, pupils are taught in mixed ability groups. The year 11 class follow the Edexcel GCSE syllabus. The pupils have to complete two pieces of externally marked composition work, two performance pieces and a written examination. There is one year 11 class with 11 pupils in. There is no timetabled year 10 class, and a year 9 class with 12 pupils in. Year 9 is used as a skills-building year. There is also a small GCSE class that is taught after-school on a Friday for one-hour. There are 4 pupils completing this, 3 are following the Edexcel GCSE, and one is going to complete a performance technical award.

The Music department's results have been very good over the past three years and the amount of pupils choosing to study Music at KS4 has also increased.

## **Extra Curricular**

6 peripatetic teachers come in to deliver lessons on a weekly basis. The department is always open after-school and at break/lunchtimes when possible for pupils to use the facilities. The pupils are also given the opportunity to display their talents by performing in front of an audience every term. Usually, we put on a Christmas Concert, Summer concert, or performance at the Gala Theatre in Durham.

# **DRAMA**

There is one mixed ability year 11 Drama class which has 12 pupils. They are taught by the music teacher. They receive 5 lessons per fortnight which are taught in either the drama studio, which is equipped with a raised stage and a small lighting rig, or an ordinary classroom with desks. The class are following the GCSE AQA drama course. Drama and music students are regularly given the opportunity to go to the theatre.