'Creativity is a journey, not just an end product'

Analysing ··· Creating ··· Developing ··· Evaluating ··· Exploring ··· Experimenting ··· Linking
Refining ··· Researching ··· Responding ···Risk taking ··· Understanding

THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

The Music Department runs within the highly successful and valued Creative Arts Faculty, along with Dance, Drama, Media, Art and Stage Craft.

The Romsey School Music Department has been successful in offering performance opportunities for a wide range of pupils. Our practical KS3 (years 7-9) curriculum presents pupils with stimulating challenges on a wide range of instruments as well as access to PC-based Music Technology.

September 2016 saw the opening of our Creative Arts extension, now home to 3 music classrooms each with adjoining practice rooms. One of the classrooms is a music technology suite, one a multi-purpose keyboard lab and the other a large rehearsal space that houses our Steel Pan ensemble and class set of African Drums.

We have gained a commendable reputation from the wider community for the quality of our annual productions and events, most recently staging Chicago with a pupil led pit band. Within a short walk of the school is the magnificent Romsey Abbey which is used to host the school's traditional Carol Service. Alongside this we offer more relaxed evening performances like our annual Jazz Café and Summer Evening Concert.

Extra-Curricular learning is the hub of the faculty, an opportunity for all Creative Art teachers to showcase the fantastic work they do and gain recognition for it. This is a big part of Romsey School life with clubs being run almost every evening and lunchtime. The variety is vast. Music activities include a Junior Choir, Production choir, Boys Choir, chamber choir, Senior Jazz Band, Junior Jazz Band, Orchestra, Flute Choir, string ensemble and brass ensemble. Additionally, our instrumental music service offers tuition in 18 separate instruments.

Edexcel GCSE Music is available as an option for Year 10 and 11 pupils. There is currently 1 GCSE group in Year 10 and 11.

GCSE results:

Subject: Music	2014 (23)	2015 (22)	2016 (18)	2017 (14)		2018 (13)	2019 (13)
%A*-A	22%	36%	53%	43%	% Grades 7-9	69%	36%
%A*-C	70%	64%	84%	79%	% Grade 5 +	92%	79%
					% Grade 4 +	92%	100%
%A*-G	100%	100%	100%	100%	% Grade 1-9	100%	100%

School Teaching and Learning Ethos:

We believe that in order to be well prepared for further education and for life beyond school, pupils need to master a whole range of skills, which transcend the individual disciplines. Therefore, whenever appropriate, our curricula and teaching methodologies promote, encourage, and facilitate hands on learning experiences which develop both our pupils' deeper knowledge and their 'Habits of Mind' through inquiry. Pupils also need to develop a Growth Mindset and we all believe that effort leads to Mastery.

Therefore (in addition to developing our bespoke Language for Teaching) the whole school community has been through extensive consultation and reached an agreement to delineate what we believe to be effective Learning at The Romsey School. These skills (or 'Habits of Mind') are written into our own bespoke 'Language for Learning'. This language involves seven capacities: resilience, empathy, reflection, self-management, collaboration, curiosity and creativity.
The key for our Habits of Mind is that all of these skills are learnable, and that we have a duty to teach all of our children how to further improve each of their Habits of Mind.

As a school we have developed a shared 'Language for Teaching', which are the essentials for great teaching, known as 'FLAC'. 'FLAC' is the broad success criteria which encompasses all that we expect to be in the typicality of a pupil's learning experience over time. The areas encompass four branches of pedagogy which have a strong evidence base of significant impact on learning experiences and outcomes.

We use our 'Language for Teaching' as a basis on which to plan lessons, observe learning and to set our objectives for our action plans as a school, as Curriculum Teams, and also within the Professional Learning and Performance Development of individual colleagues.

Focused Learning	Pupils being deeply engaged in learning which is meaningful and challenging
Learning to Learn	Overtly teaching pupils how to learn using the Language for Learning in our lessons (see our Habits of Mind)
Assessment for Learning	Pupils understanding 'what great looks like' in each subject. This includes high quality teacher questioning and excellent feedback
Challenge	Each pupil is stretched above their starting point and using higher order thinking skills

We also believe in Growth Mindsets and that all colleagues and pupils can improve with regard to their Teaching of FLAC, regardless of their starting point. Every member of the school community is a learner and each of us should therefore take every opportunity to develop ourselves.