

Music Department

Introduction

We are an experienced and enthusiastic team who have high regard for each other and who work energetically and cooperatively for the collective good of all our students. We regard music to be an essential subject for students to foster an aesthetic awareness that will enrich their lives in the future. Our belief is that the teaching of music is relevant to the education of the whole person, whether directly benefiting the teaching of other subjects or developing valuable personal characteristics in the students. We value a calm, purposeful atmosphere within the department, and have high expectations that students should enjoy working to the best of their abilities.

Staff and Accommodation

The music department is housed in a modern purpose-built building with three large classrooms, several practice rooms and an ensemble room. One classroom is a purpose-built music technology suite with a recording and engineering room as well as a teaching room, and sixth form study area. Each classroom is equipped with Apple Mac computers running Garageband and Logic and all students have access to keyboards, a range of acoustic instruments and professional recording equipment. There are two full time teachers and one part time teacher, as well as peripatetic teachers of voice, brass, strings, woodwind, piano, guitar and drums, all supported by a music technician three days a week.

Curriculum

Music is taught in mixed ability groups for three lessons over a two week timetable in Years 7 and 8 and also to Year 9 students for two lessons a week as part of the school's enrichment programme. At Key Stage 4 we offer a two-year GCSE music option and a music technology option, which runs over three years from Years 9-11. In the Sixth Form we offer successful AS and A2 level music courses and BTEC Level 3 Music Technology. The BTEC course is offered as an opportunity for students who wish to concentrate on music production skills, rather than being an alternative to Music A level for the less academic. As such, the course attracts highly-motivated students and is challenging and successful.

The syllabus and work schemes are designed to teach musical concepts through practical activities of performing, composing, listening and appraising. We are committed to providing a musical education for all abilities but also value any vocal or instrumental skills gained by individual students in private lessons. We encourage students to utilise these skills in the classroom and liaise with private teachers whenever possible.

Extra-curricular

Giving students the opportunity to join ensemble groups and to perform in concerts is a very high priority for us. We run advanced string and wind groups, a mixed training group and singing groups weekly and encourage all students who have vocal and instrumental lessons to join in. We also encourage students to form their own small groups in whatever style they like and practice at lunch or break times in the department. Concerts are held termly, not just for the larger ensemble groups, but also for soloists and groups of any level of experience, in every year group, to gain valuable experience in performing to an audience. West Sussex Music provides much of our instrumental teaching and we also have private instrumental teachers who give individual lessons both during and after school.

Examination Results

GCSE % GRADES A* - C/9 - 4

YEAR	2018 (9-4)	2017	2016
%	82%	89%	61%

AS/A2

2018 A2: 1 B grade

2017 A2: 2 C grades, 1 D grade, 1 E grade

2016 AS: 1 A grade, 5 B grades, 1 C grade, 2 D grades. A2: 1 B grade, 2 C grades

BTEC Music Technology Level 3

2018: 4 Distinction* grades

2017: 5 Distinction* grades, 2 Distinction grades, 1 Merit grade

May 2019

Person Specification

Teacher of Music

Main Pay Range / UPR

We are seeking a person to teach music and music technology from September 2019 as part of a strong and high-achieving Music Department. The successful candidate will have broad musical experience and a good working knowledge of contemporary music production techniques as well as knowledge and experience of BTEC course delivery and assessment would be advantageous.

An additional part of this role is the oversight of the school's radio station (Radio Weald) which is a well-established part of the school community. It is currently run as an extra-curricular activity and is part of the school student leadership framework.

We seek a candidate with the following qualities:

- Well qualified and enthusiastic teacher of music and music technology to teach across all Key Stages including GCSE Music and BTEC Music Technology.
- Sound working knowledge of Garageband and Logic and music production skills an advantage.
- Knowledge and experience of BTEC qualifications an advantage.
- Commitment to high standards of achievement.
- Committed to working as part of a team.
- Good instrumental and/or vocal skills.
- A willingness to contribute to the development of the department and the sharing of good practice.
- A willingness to contribute to extra-curricular activities.
- Ability to contribute to Radio Weald
- An ability to teach an appropriate second subject

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The successful candidate will be subject to pre-employment checks including an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check.