



Intent

"The Music Department's vision is to provide high quality, musical opportunities for all students both in the classroom and in a wider setting. From Beethoven to Bruno Mars, an inclusive practical musical backdrop is at the heart of all we do in our desire to create well-rounded musicians, lasting friendships and lifelong learners"

The purpose of the Music curriculum is to:

- Enable all pupils to develop their musical potential through engaging auditory experiences, recognising that music as art is an important part of cultural identity. We also recognise that music benefits both cognitive development and character development. Performing is a crucial part of this.
- Encourage and prepare students for lifelong musical learning and appreciation, both in and out of school, including preparation for further study if appropriate.

Learning music is a cultural entitlement for every child, and we hope that our approach will ensure that all pupils receive this and are successful in their learning.

Implementation

The curriculum is based on a mastery model, in which the ambition is that all pupils are taught and achieve the essential knowledge and skills in each of the years of the curriculum so that both knowledge and skills can be re-used effectively in future learning to achieve greater depth of musical learning and outcome. Through the development of technique (performance and music technology), construction (composing and improving) and critical engagement, this is achieved.

The music curriculum in Year 7 is very much an introductory year where students experiment with patterns, repetition and contrast including simple melody. In Year 8, students are introduced to progressively more challenging concepts in developing an understanding of the construction of musical structures over time such as melody, tonality, and large-scale structure (the horizontal). In Year 9, more complex concepts such as harmony and texture (the vertical). In all years, all through various practical, composition based and listening activities.

Students are given the opportunity to study a wide range of varied music from many periods and cultures. Significantly students get the chance to learn new skills on numerous types of instrument(s) and use highly sophisticated ICT equipment in our imac suite, similar to the standard used in the music industry. There is a rich and varied extra-curricular programme in place and seven visiting instrumental tutors offer a wealth of expertise and experience in their specific instrumental/vocal fields. We feel extremely passionate in relation to our all-inclusive / 'open house' approach at lunchtimes and after school and do our very best to make sure groups cater for all abilities and ages making all students feel welcome. Students also have the opportunity to perform at some prestigious events, including the Royal Northern College of Music.

Impact

We aim to ensure that we give students a breadth of knowledge and skills as well as a lifelong appreciation of different types of music. We wish for students to understand the wellbeing qualities music can have whether, performing, creating or listening, and hope to support the wider personal development of a student in terms of their happy and successful journey through school. By teaching this curriculum well, providing opportunities and developing effective habits in our pupils, we aim to create legacy and bring out the best in everyone.