

## Music

The music curriculum develops a knowledge of music and provides opportunities to develop interpersonal skills such as resilience, staying positive and communication. In addition to these, studying music also supports the development of student creativity and self-expression when they are engaged with composition tasks and performances and engagement in creative experiences such as workshops.

Students start in year 7 by learning the foundations of a balanced music education. This includes good posture when singing and how to produce the best possible sound. Basic keyboard skills will be introduced, and students will be introduced to chords. They will learn how to use the musical terminology when describing in detail the music they listen to and create. Finally, students in year 7 will learn how to read music notation for the treble clef, along with understanding the note values and how to compose their own rhythms.

These foundations in year 7 will then be built on throughout year 8 and 9 when different musical genres are explored through listening and composition skills. We will be able to move onto syncopated rhythms and play hands together on the keyboard. By the end of KS3 students should be able to recognise a range of different musical styles and explain the similarities and differences between them. They will be confident on the keyboard and be able to play difficult chord sequences hands together. They will be able to read from a range of musical notations including lead sheets and staff notation. They will have a good understanding of music keywords and be able to explain what they are listening to in detail using correct music terminology.

Along with the obvious musical development studying music will contribute to their cognitive development including abstract thinking, aural and spatial awareness, verbal understanding along with developing students' motor skill development, rational thinking and reasoning, critical thinking, logistical thinking and interpretive skills.

If students chose to study music at KS4 then they will decide for themselves which instrument they want to pursue at a higher level and will focus on being the best they can be on their chosen instrument. They will develop their target setting skills and the ability to meet deadlines. They will research in detail the styles they themselves want a better understanding of in order for them to analyse and explain what they have researched. Reflection will be the main driving force of all their work. They will be asked to regularly reflect on their progress and demonstrate a good practise routine with clear rehearsal plans and schedules being in place.

On top of this music contributes to learning in other knowledge and skill areas such as numeracy and literacy. It also helps with concentration, memory and time management. All essential life skills that can be applied to any type of chosen career and support them becoming a successful and happy adult.