

Performing Arts: Music Curriculum Statement

Curriculum Intent

In Performing Arts, we become confident and creative thinkers.

We understand the value of Performing Arts and its cultural, moral, and social contribution to society.

If we consider the purpose of education to be an attempt to prepare young people for a future we cannot predict, Music (and the Arts in general) seems uniquely placed to fulfil this aim.

Our vision is to develop in students not only a passion for music in its myriad forms, but also to encourage resilience, imaginative problem solving, creative thinking and the ability and willingness to work both collaboratively and individually.

Our values include, but are not limited to, inclusivity, diversity, audacity, and intellectual rigour.

Throughout all key stages, we have created programmes of study which reflect the diversity of the musical world, as well as the diverse backgrounds and experiences of the students. We seek to develop instrument-specific performing skills, explore the features and conventions of the creation and performance practises of different musical genres and traditions and make authentic links between them, and how they relate to the wider world.

In the classroom, the curriculum is delivered through a variety of both practical and written or research tasks. These are both teacher- and student-led and enable students to reflect on their progress.

Teachers engage and inspire students through their own passion for music, as well as their own expertise as practising musicians. They enable students to surprise themselves with what they are capable of. Teachers also endeavour to link examples to the wider world and the students prior learning and life experiences.

The Music Department provides a wide range of enrichment activities designed to both develop the students' burgeoning musicianship and enable them to pursue



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their own musical interests. Music staff are always available to facilitate *ad hoc* enrichment opportunities as and when required

Any homework or independent study tasks are designed to relate directly to the specific area of study and to broaden the students' understanding.

All unit plans and schemes of work are designed to represent diversity of our community, as well as ensuring that all students are able to access activities irrespective of their individual needs, circumstances or backgrounds.

A significant amount of work has been put in by the music department to ensure that the examples used, especially for listening tasks, are increasingly diverse, drawing on the work of oft-neglected women and BAME composers and performers, as well as those with disabilities and from diverse backgrounds.