

Performing Arts



ALEC REED ACADEMY
PROUD TO LEARN



Music sits alongside Drama within Performing Arts at Alec Reed Academy and is central to the life of the school. The current team, comprising of four specialist teachers, are committed to providing high quality opportunities for students both in and outside formal lessons to consistently raise standards of achievement and engagement across all key stages. The team take pride in being able to deliver a curriculum at each Key Stage which caters for students of all abilities and the music curriculum is enhanced by free and subsidised instrumental and vocal lessons for students at Key Stage 4.



High expectations are set within the department for both students and teachers alike. Careful, thoughtful and differentiated planning informs exciting and innovative teaching. The Performing Arts team are committed to developing the way they teach, taking on board new initiatives and experimenting with a wide range of teaching styles and strategies. Assessment for Learning is embedded into the curriculum in Years 7 and 8 enabling students to track their development of the skills and knowledge needed to enjoy success at GCSE and beyond.

More than 75 students follow the Eduqas GCSE Music in Years 9—11 and numbers are well above national average in the Sixth Form where students follow Level 3 Extended Certificates in Music, Music Production and Performing Arts.



The expansion of the co-curricular programme is high on the agenda within Performing Arts, with ARA building on the instrumental, vocal and dramatic ensembles to include Music Technology, Sound Engineering and Technical Theatre all of which feed the regular programme of concerts and annual school production. Regular visits to concerts, the theatre and to higher education and industry partners support students' preparation for the next phase of their learning and the team take pride in their inclusive and aspirational approach to teaching and learning.

Performing Arts is a well-resourced curriculum area with a generous budget that is identified and planned through the integrated Academy-wide online Academy Improvement Plan. The Music department comprises two specialist teaching rooms; a recording studio; live room and three practice rooms, housing a state-of-the-art digital mixing desk; multiple drum kits; guitars; ukuleles; keyboards and pianos; 28 Macs running Logic Pro-X and score-writing software; Ableton launchpads; tabla, and orchestral instruments providing significant and broad opportunities for students to create and record music to an advanced level. There is also a professional theatre and control room, and well-equipped drama and dance studios.



Professional development of staff is actively promoted and supported at the Academy with training opportunities identified and Performance Management targets set as part of the annual cycle of Performance Review. As a result, the department benefits from the very latest teaching and learning strategies and innovations as well as ensuring that all teachers are expert practitioners in their field.