

MUSIC



Overview of area

The Music Department is part of the Arts Faculty which also includes Art, Drama, Dance, Performing Arts and Media. The area is supported by a full-time, experienced technician. Music currently enjoys a good reputation both within school and in the local community. Students and parents appreciate the breadth and quality of the provision.

Staffing

All the staff in the Music Department are enthusiastic, committed and highly motivated to raising standards of teaching and learning. There is a Leader of Music who teaches across all year groups, a full time second member of staff who teaches across all key stages along with a part-time member of staff. There are 10 peripatetic staff and the school enjoys the regular support of two accompanists.

Facilities

Specialist accommodation consists of two teaching rooms, which have a suite of practice rooms. These are fully equipped with a variety of resources including keyboards, a class set of African and Samba Instruments as well as a range of tuned and untuned percussion. Music Room 1 is equipped with 10 computers with *Sibelius 7* and *Cubasis* and Music Room 2 has 10 Mac computers that have *Sibelius 7* and *Logic*. The department also has 7 laptops. We are flexible with our teaching rooms which are often inter-changeable, depending on which scheme of work is in progress. For 'A' level Music Technology we have a suite of 9 Macs.

The 'Music Annex' consists of two purpose built areas; one a multi purpose rehearsal area, generally used for instrumental teaching and small ensemble rehearsals, whilst the smaller area provides Music Technology facilities as well as a room for visiting instrumental staff.

Enrichment, Support and extra-curricular activities

Just over 10% of the school population receive weekly instrumental and vocal tuition. This is given by a dedicated team of visiting tutors supplied either through the County Music Service or employed directly by the school. In addition to teaching individuals and small groups, the team of 10 tutors also contribute to our extensive extra-curricular programme. Instrumental lessons are usually taught in the Music Annex or Additional Practise Space and lessons are of ½ hour duration. Music Theory is offered to all those taking instrumental/vocal tuition to enable them, as appropriate, to make it to the highest performance grades.

Extra-curricular activities contribute successfully to school life with the Wind Band, SJLHS Singers, Acapella Choir, Jazz Band, Gospel Choir, Guitar Ensemble, Rock 'n' Pop Band and other small ensembles performing regularly throughout the academic year both in school at events such as Celebration Assemblies and at venues locally to support community events such as the hospital fete. We also have the opportunity to regularly perform at Snape Maltings and The Old Granary Studio at Raveningham. Many pupils also represent the school in Area and County ensembles as well as being part of the Aldeburgh Young Musicians activities. Recent trips organised have included London Musicals and successful 5 day concert tours to Germany and Belgium. Besides this, regular intervention sessions are run to support Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 learners.



Teaching and Learning

Key Stage 3

Students are taught in mixed ability groups and receive one 100 minute lesson and a 50 minute lesson a fortnight. Besides developing skills, years 7 and 8 have the opportunity for cross-curricular themes to be explored across the Arts Disciplines. A number of staff in the Arts Faculty have completed training to become Arts Awards Leader. Lessons are planned to include a variety of activities including performing, composing, listening and appraising and are based on the TEEP learning cycle.

Key Stage 4

Students opting for GCSE Music study the Edexcel syllabus. The department caters for students of all abilities who wish to complete this course.

Key Stage 5

Students have the opportunity to study A Level Music (Edexcel) and A Level Music Technology (Edexcel). We are frequently joined by students from other local schools at KS5.

Key Stage 5 students, whether they are studying Music or not, play a very important part in extra curricular activities, not only taking a key part but often running many of the ensembles.

Exam Results

	2019	2019	2022	2022
Key stage 4	9 – 4 %	9 – 1 %	9 – 4 %	9 – 1 %
GCSE	73%	100%	60%	100%
Key stage 5	A - C%	A - E%	A-C	A-E
A Level	50%	100%	100%	100%
A Level Music Tech	67%	100%	50%	100%

