

MUSIC AT THE OPEN ACADEMY

Our school vision “**Courage in every step, faith in every journey**”

Music enables learners to develop their knowledge and understanding through the three core components of performing, composing and appraising, explored across four interrelated areas of study.

Throughout the course, students are encouraged to show **courage** in every step of their musical development — whether performing in front of an audience, experimenting with new compositional ideas, or analysing unfamiliar styles of music. As the level of challenge increases, learners build confidence in their abilities, taking creative risks and pushing themselves beyond their comfort zones.

Equally, students demonstrate **faith** in their journey as musicians. They learn to trust the process of rehearsal, refinement and reflection, understanding that growth comes through sustained effort and resilience. They are encouraged to draw upon both their musical knowledge and personal experiences to create work that is thoughtful, expressive and individual.

As part of the qualification, students will compose two original pieces and complete two performances, providing meaningful opportunities to showcase their technical skill, creativity and artistic maturity.

RESPECT	ASPIRATION	PERSEVERANCE
<p>Guided by the core value of respect, this GCSE Music course encourages students to develop an informed appreciation of music from a wide range of historical and contemporary contexts.</p> <p>Students explore the Baroque, Classical and Romantic periods alongside twentieth-century and contemporary film music. Through listening, analysis and performance, learners study composers such as J.S. Bach and Mozart, examining how their</p>	<p>Driven by the core value of aspiration, this GCSE Music course challenges students to strive for excellence in performance, composition and listening.</p> <p>Learners are exposed to a broad range of musical styles, developing both technical skill and artistic understanding. As part of the course, students refine their craft through instrumental or vocal study, building confidence, control and expressive depth.</p>	<p>Shaped by the core value of perseverance, this GCSE Music course nurtures resilience, discipline and determination.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to take ownership of their progress, understanding that musical development requires sustained effort, regular practice and a willingness to refine their work. Through rehearsal, redrafting and reflection, learners strengthen both their technical ability and creative confidence.</p>

<p>innovations continue to shape the music we hear today.</p> <p>Students also engage with popular music, including the band Toto, considering their global influence and musical style. This study provides opportunities to reflect on the pressures of the music industry and the importance of mental health and wellbeing, fostering empathy and respect for artists as individuals as well as musicians.</p> <p>Throughout the course, students are encouraged to value diverse musical traditions, historical perspectives and one another's creative contributions.</p>	<p>Students are encouraged to move beyond their comfort zones through creative composition and performance. They develop the ability to articulate informed opinions, analyse the elements of music and evaluate what makes a composition effective and impactful.</p> <p>The course also explores the evolving music industry, including the influence of technology, social media and artificial intelligence, inspiring students to think ambitiously about their own creative futures.</p>	<p>Structured opportunities for self-evaluation enable students to assess their performances and compositions critically and constructively, identifying areas for improvement and setting clear targets.</p> <p>Over time, this commitment to perseverance is reflected in the increasing quality, maturity and confidence evident in their musical work.</p>
<p>SPIRITUALITY</p>	<p>GLOBAL CITIZENS</p>	<p>AWE AND WONDER</p>
<p>Guided by the school vision, <i>“Courage in every step, Faith in every journey,”</i> the Music Department nurtures spirituality by creating space for reflection, meaning and personal flourishing.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to show courage in expressing their thoughts, beliefs and emotions through music, and to develop faith in their own creative journey. Through composing, performing and listening, learners explore what it means to be human, engaging with music that reflects a wide range of lived experiences.</p> <p>Music offers opportunities for stillness, reflection and wonder, enabling students to develop a sense of</p>	<p>In living out the vision <i>“Courage in every step, Faith in every journey,”</i> the Music Department supports students in becoming compassionate and informed global citizens.</p> <p>Students demonstrate courage by engaging with music from diverse cultures and traditions, encountering perspectives beyond their own. They develop faith in their ability to understand and value difference, recognising the inherent dignity and worth of all people.</p> <p>Through musical exploration, learners consider how music shapes and reflects communities, identities and social change. They are</p>	<p>Rooted in the vision <i>“Courage in every step, Faith in every journey,”</i> the Music Department inspires awe and wonder, fostering curiosity and a deep appreciation for the beauty and complexity of music.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to approach music with curiosity and courage, exploring new sounds, ideas and creative possibilities. Through these experiences, they develop faith in the process of discovery, recognising that creativity is a journey of exploration and growth.</p> <p>Encounters with powerful and expressive music provide moments of awe that invite reflection and deeper thinking. Whether through listening,</p>

identity, purpose and connection. In doing so, they grow in wisdom, becoming more reflective, empathetic and aware of the dignity and value of themselves and others.

Music also creates moments for stillness and contemplation, allowing learners to appreciate beauty, meaning and purpose beyond the immediate. In this way, students develop a sense of identity, empathy and connection to something greater than themselves.

encouraged to think deeply about justice, representation and the influence of the global music industry.

By working collaboratively and respectfully, students contribute to a community built on mutual respect, understanding and shared humanity, preparing them to flourish in a diverse and interconnected world.

performing or composing, students experience the joy and wonder of music, enabling them to grow in wisdom, creativity and appreciation of the world around them.

These opportunities support students in flourishing as curious, reflective and inspired individuals.