The Open Academy provides a wide and varied Music curriculum and offers BTEC Level 1/2 Music Practice in Key Stage 4. Our aim is to explore musical genres and styles in both their theoretical and practical sense and develop skills in listening, performance and composition.

Students in KS3 study music theory such as reading musical notation, rhythms and elements so that they are able to tackle more advanced repertoire on instruments such as pianos, ukuleles and drums. We use Edmodo as a homework tool to support classroom learning by setting listening and research exercises.

In Year 7, students' study:

Musical Elements
The Orchestra
African Drumming
Fanfares
Dance/Folk Music

In Year 8, students' study:

Ostinatos
Baroque/Classical/Romantic Music
Blues & Jazz
Rock & Pop
Rap & Hip Hop
Music Technology

In Year 9, students' study:
Ukulele project
Cover Songs
Songwriting
Film Music
World Music

In Key Stage 4, students are prepped for a career in the music industry as performers, composers and technicians through an accessible and independent course that allows them to discover themselves as artists and musicians. This is a coursework-only qualification and is nationally recognised as a GCSE equivalent. Students who are considering taking Music at BTEC level should be proficient in at least one instrument.

The Music Department also runs a full and exciting extra-curricular timetable including Piano Café, Choir, Open Session, Percussion Ensemble, Ukulele Club and our popular Lunchtime Concert series. All students are welcome to join any of the clubs on offer regardless of previous ability or access to music. There are a number of opportunities throughout the year to perform in front of friends and family such as the Christmas Concert and the Royal Norfolk Show, and we have hopes of performing a production of We Will Rock You in 2020.

Furthermore, we also offer private tuition in drums, singing and guitar in partnership with the Norfolk County Music Service and the Norwich Guitar Academy, where students work with leaders in their field.