



## Music Curriculum

### Part A Curriculum Music

KS3 - 1 hour a week music lessons in specialist classrooms, as suggested in the Model Music Curriculum (**MMC**).

All work is practical based and focuses on '*performing, experimenting with the creative process and ensemble playing*' **MMC**

By year 9 we aim for students to have

- *gained an aural knowledge of some of the great musical output of human civilisation*
- *engaged with creative processes through improvisation and composition*
- *built an understanding of how musical elements work*
- *developed knowledge of a wider range of notes and improved their fluency in music notation.*

Students have the opportunity to play a range of instruments - keyboard, guitar, drums and sing. They also explore world music - African drumming, Taiko drumming, Indian music and Gamelan and gain some understanding of the origins and context for this music.

Keyboard work is fundamental to musical understanding and therefore much of the work is done on piano/keyboard.

**MMC** '*Given that the keyboard is the main Digital Audio Workstation controller, it is desirable for most pupils to have some degree of proficiency in using it, e.g. the ability to form chords and improvise melodies.*'

Students learn the foundations of the subject through the musical elements and are expected to learn to read simple notation and/or tab. They gain experience playing in ensembles and learning drumming patterns as a class and in small groups. They are also encouraged to '*find their own compositional voice*' by creating their own songs and having the opportunity to compose film and gaming music. A range of musical genres is covered.

Some music technology is introduced in year 8 and 9 along with an increased awareness of the music industry and marketing for artists.

**MMC** '*Music is for all*'. We firmly believe this and design our schemes to ensure we remove potential barriers for learning and allow SEND students to take a full and active part in classroom lessons through adaptations for physical needs and a scaffolded approach to tasks where extra structure and support is needed.

GCSE music is offered (Eduqas Specification). This specification allows students to study 2 set works from different musical genres, develop strong music theory knowledge, compose

to 2 different briefs using Musescore software and fine tune their solo and ensemble performance work.

At Post 16, we offer the BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Technology - Digital Music production, covering industry level briefs in mixing and mastering music, creating commercially successful music and creating music for film/media. This often leads to students pursuing this in Higher Education.

### **Part B Co-curricular music**

Instrumental lessons are offered in partnership with the East Riding Schools Music Per service. Instruments on offer are voice, drums, guitar, keyboard, violin, plus a choice of woodwind and brass instruments. Students can take graded examinations in these instruments if the teacher feels this would be appropriate. Performing Arts staff also assist where they can, especially with tutoring GCSE music students for their performance exams. Lessons are subsidised but cost £65 per term per pupil. Those on Free School Meals are offered free lessons.

Students are offered the chance to join our vocal group who rehearse once a week. This group performs at the 2 music concerts a year and offers the chance for small group and solo work.

Band club runs one a week and allows students from all years to work in small groups playing music they enjoy and furthering their timing and ensemble skills. From this, several bands are formed and these will perform at our in-house music concerts.

The music rooms are available for students to rehearse outside of lesson times and get 1-2-1 feedback from staff as needed. There are 3 practice rooms that can be used for individual rehearsals.

### **Part C Musical Experiences**

Our winter and summer themed concerts allow instrumentalists, vocalists and bands to perform their choice of music solo or in groups. This is open to all year groups and auditions are held to help ensure a quality and varied programme.

The school offers a musical theatre performance every year so students can further their experiences singing in a theatre context and bringing character and expression to their performances.

We also enter the East Riding Battle of the Bands competition at Bridlington Spa in July each year, which is a chance for our best performing band to showcase in a professional venue and receive useful feedback from industry experts.

### **In the Future**

We are building music technology further into the KS3 curriculum with the introduction of new gaming music software for year 8 and introducing Band lab to year 9 students.

In our extra-curricular offer we want to continue developing bands and ensemble playing at a higher level through Band club and also further showcase students who have peripatetic music lessons through school concert performances.

In the next 2 years, we aim to build towards being able to perform a school musical with a live band using student musicians.

