

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Q Do you offer instrumental lessons?

A Yes! We offer lessons on all instruments, ranging from steel pans to accordion, and everything in between! Students will either receive a 20 minute individual lesson or 30 minute lesson in a pair/small group for steel pans. These take place weekly throughout the school day and work on a rota system.

Q What is the cost of instrumental lessons and how do I pay?

A The cost is £75 per term, £35 for steel pans (as they are in larger groups). You will be invoiced via Schoolcomms.

Q What extra-curricular opportunities do you offer?

A We offer Drama Club, 'Rock School', 'We Sing' Show Choir and Keyboard Club. These all take place after school on a weekly basis and are open to anyone who wishes to join, at no cost.

Q Do you run any trips?

A Yes. We run at least 2 trips per year to see professional touring musical productions at *The Hippodrome* and/or *The Alexandra Theatre* and also an annual trip to Symphony Hall to see the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra perform.

Q Will my child have regular opportunities to perform?

A Yes. As well as holding regular 'mini-concerts' in our school library, the department also runs an annual Christmas Production, Winter Soiree, *Bishop's Got Talent* event and a Primary/Secondary collaboration showcase concert. This is in addition to other solo and smaller ensemble community-based performances throughout the year.

Q How many hours Music do students have at Key Stage 3?

A Music is a foundation subject and students in Key Stage 3 receive 1 hour curriculum time per week.

Q Which courses do you offer in Music and Performing Arts at Key Stages 4 and 5?

A The department currently offers GCSE and A level Music and Level 1/2 BTEC Technical Award in Performing Arts (Musical Theatre) at Key Stage 4. Group sizes for Key Stage 4 classes are usually between 10 and 12 students. For A level Music, classes are significantly smaller due to the specialist nature of the subject.

Q My child is not very confident. Does this matter in your subject?

A Not at all! Our department vision is to provide a nurturing and safe environment where students feel safe to experiment musically and develop their creative skills. This 'no fear of failure' approach allows students to develop their confidence within the subject, at their own pace, and always with support and encouragement from music specialists who not only believe in the power of the subject, but absolutely love it too!