



## **Curriculum Intent for Music and Performing Arts at St Joseph's College**

### **Curriculum Statement**

Our aim is to successfully teach our students to *listen, understand and appreciate* world music and to experience inclusive *performance* and the process of *Composition*. These three essential elements of Music are taught and developed together with the aim to build personal skills that students can draw upon to succeed, not only in music lessons but also beyond school life and in future employment. The life skills that are developed, and are at times explicitly taught, are an integral part of the development of the subject specific skills as well as creating well-rounded individuals. The core principles that we aim to develop are: Problem solving, perseverance, diligence, team work, time management, organisation, responsibility, cultural history, listening skills, confidence, social skills, discipline, self-evaluation, interpersonal skills, sense of achievement. Opportunities are intrinsic for students to be able to hone and develop the practical aspects of performance and composition.

### **Curriculum Features**

The curriculum is structured based on the expectations for traditional GCSE & 'A' Level Music and Level 2/3 Vocational pathways. Therefore, we offer four exam boards at this centre. Key concepts and skills required by the end of these courses are fed down into schemes of work from Year 7 upwards. This is designed to raise expectations and standards from the start of Key Stage 3 and ensure that musical knowledge is being understood both practically and theoretically. Year 7, 8 and 9 will study various musical genres, (historical and cultural) and through these different cultures and styles will explore, develop and refine their musical skills. Each project will focus on one of the 3 subject specific skills mentioned in the opening statement, so that over the key stage students will return to these concepts enabling them to build and advance their knowledge and skill set further as the progress through the Key Stages.

### **The Extended Curriculum**

Our extensive extra-curricular music programme enables and supports musicianship in students of varying abilities, giving opportunities for students to experience a wide variety of genres and musical ensembles. As well as all-inclusive ensembles for mixed ability students who want the enjoyment of performing with others and developing their musical skills, such as Junior Orchestra and Choir, we also offer students the chance for more advanced musical groups such as Senior Orchestra, PA Choir and Mass Bands. These ensembles are able to challenge the students and prepare them for further studies in the field. The School Production (Feb 2022) is another opportunity to stretch and challenge the students; either by performing in the Production Band (for students Grade 5+ on their instrument) or by auditioning to be a member of the cast, where the expectation is that all cast members and musicians develop performance talent and professionalism. These clubs/events are not only to encourage enjoyment in the arts but also for students to learn about professional expectations and performance discipline. Students are also able to access our department reward system by taking on a leadership role within the department and developing their own musical skills as well as supporting younger students with their music making.