



MUSIC

Prince Henry's High School has a very active Music Department and provides students with various high quality musical opportunities catering for all tastes. In 2021/22, there were over 80 students who took individual or group instrumental or vocal lessons. The school has 10 peripatetic teachers, delivering around 80 individual/group music lessons every week, plus 2 full time teachers for the whole school's music curriculum lessons. Every year this number grows. The faculty is managed by Mr P Bullas, who is ably assisted by Mr L Fisher.

Through regular school newsletters, website news and twitter feeds, we aim to increase communications between the school and parents with news of achievements, activities and future events. The Concert Band (an amalgamation of wind, brass and percussion players from Prince Henry's) have about 35 members and the Big Band have nearly 25 members each and there are around 8 additional ensembles, bands and choirs in the school, illustrating the tremendous vitality of this faculty.

The school has a very busy concert calendar, tour regularly to European destinations and produce a whole school musical in the Henrician Theatre. Previous musicals have included My Fair lady, Hairspray, Guys and Dolls, Anything Goes, Les Misérables, Oklahoma, Me and My Girl and Our House. New members are always welcome in these ensembles, so if you know of someone not already in a Band or choir, ask them to come along to a rehearsal.

KEY STAGE 3 -Year 9

At Key Stage 3, students look at musical topics, which aim to help students develop the three core curriculum skills of Listening, Performing and composing which develop the following:

- UNDERSTANDING of different musical styles.
- PERFORMANCE of many different instruments.
- IMPROVISATION in many genres.
- GROUP COMPOSITIONS
- COMPOSITION SKILLS
- VOCABULARY; using the correct musical language.

The specific topics covered in at KS3 music are listed below.

Term 1 - 1st Half: The Elements of music - Bridging Unit - Rhythm& Pitch - developing composition skills using computer software.

Term 1 - 2nd Half: Keyboard performance - Chords and Melody -

Term 2 - 1st Half: Instruments of the Orchestra - 'A hands on' approach. Developing listening and appraising skills.

Term 2 - 2nd Half: Popular music - Developing group performance skills

Term 3 - 1st Half: Music in the Media - Composing through music technology.

Term 3 - 2nd Half: Student performance - group work preparing for final concert.

KEY STAGE 4 -GCSE Music.

At Key Stage 4, students follow the Edexcel GCSE Music syllabus which breaks down into 3 assessed areas: Listening, Performing and Composing. Areas of Study include:

- Unit 1 - Performing - solo and ensemble.
- Unit 2 - Composing - 2 compositions - one to a brief and one free composition.
- Unit 3 - Appraising - Musical contexts and language

Areas of study followed:

- Instrumental music 1700-1821.
- Vocal Music.
- Music for stage and screen.
- Fusions.

Section A - Areas of study, dictation and unfamiliar pieces.

Section B - Extended response comparison between set work and one unfamiliar piece.

Assessment is ongoing with performances recorded at the end of Year 10 and Easter of Year 11, composition tasks set under 'controlled' assessment and a listening examination in June of Year 11. End of unit assessments and Music theory assessments every half term break.

KEY STAGE 5 -A Level music.

A minimum mark of a Grade 5/6 at GCSE Music, a pass or working at Grade 3/4 Music Theory is required and very good performance skills on an instrument or voice.

At Key Stage 5 students follow the Edexcel AS and A2 syllabus. This is divided into 6 units - 4 covered in Year 12 and 2 in Year 13. Performing, composition and developing Appraising skills are all addressed in this music syllabus.

Unit 1 - Performing -Solo performance.

Unit 2 - Composing - Two compositions, one to a set brief or free composition and one following the techniques of J.S Bach - Chorale harmonisation.

Unit 3 - Appraising - Study of six areas of music continued on from GCSE, each with two set works.

Areas of study:

- Vocal music
- Instrumental music
- Music for film
- Popular music and jazz
- Fusions
- New directions

KEY STAGE 5 - BTEC Vocational music.

The BTEC course can be studied as a one year qualification leading to the National Certificate in Music Performance or you can follow the full two year course to achieve the National Extended Certificate in Music Performance which is equivalent to a full 'A level' qualification.

One Year Course

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Certificate in Music Performance.

You will study two units, one which is set by the examination board - performing music in a group called - Ensemble performance. This is a mandatory unit. Here you will develop your skills working with other musicians towards a performance as part of a concert which is decided by the school, and the other unit gives students a choice to study various skills including composition, Improvisation, music performance session styles or developing your skill as a soloist. This BTEC is designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels with a focus on performance.

Two Year Course

Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance.

You will study a further two units, of which one is set by the exam board - Professional Practice in the Music Industry, and one by the school - Music Theory and Harmony.

This is designed to support progression to higher education when taken as part of a programme of study that includes other appropriate BTEC Nationals or A Levels. The programme gives an introduction to the music sector with a direct focus on music performance.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR MUSIC ACTIVITIES

[MUSIC DEPARTMENT Extra-curricular activities 2021-22](#)