

THE CHARLES DICKENS SCHOOL – MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Facilities

The Department of Music comprises of one dedicated music classroom and two practice rooms, as well as a music technology room. The rooms are purpose built and the main room is a large space, suitable for both individual/paired keyboard work and large scale ensemble activities. The music technology room is a modern space, with a suite of PCs, all running the latest music composition and sequencing software.

Key Stage 3

Students have two 60-minute lesson per fortnight. We follow the music national curriculum and the learning is supported by a wide range of practical activities, ICT and printed resources, ensuring that a variety of activities is offered to suit every type of learner. The units of work are topic based and focus on practical skills, supported by theoretical concepts. Lessons cover a wide range of music from Western Europe, popular genres and music from around the world, to ensure that students get a broad diet of contexts and cultures.

Key Stage 4

Music is optional at Key stage 4. The time allocation for KS4 is five 60 minute lessons per fortnight.

Years 9 and 10 are undertaking the Btec Tech Award in Music Practice (2022) and are currently preparing to undertake their Component 1 assessment.

Year 11 are completing the Btec First Award in Music with one class focusing on performance and a second focusing on music technology.

Extra Curricular

The department has a thriving extra-curricular programme with large numbers of students undertaking private music lessons. We have a very successful choir supported by a band which we are currently migrating into a soul band. We have also recently formed a wind group. We have many students rehearsing their own materials at break and lunch time every day.

Jan 2023