

OAJW Music Curriculum Intent

Purpose of study

We begin with the assumption that all children are musical. We aim for our pupils to develop a strong foundation in core musical skills. The curriculum will prepare pupils for further study if they choose, as well as supporting their enjoyment of and engagement with music in adult life. We value character, community, and competence in our curriculum:

- **Character:**
 - Our curriculum develops pupils' **confidence** and **resilience** through regular performance opportunities in lessons and beyond, should students wish to pursue this.
 - Students will learn the **art of practice** throughout the curriculum and have regular opportunities to get things wrong and then improve through repeated practice. This supports our pupils' patience and perseverance, which are key skills as a musician and beyond.
 - Our curriculum encourages our pupils to be **open-minded** and **well-rounded** by allowing them to listen to, perform and enjoy a range of styles of music that they may not have experienced before. Our curriculum aims for both breadth and depth, by exposing students to many pieces of music whilst covering key skills and concepts in depth.
- **Community:**
 - Our curriculum aims to ensure all pupils experience the power of music to include and to facilitate **positive connection** and **enjoyment**.
 - Our curriculum supports students in **communicating** with and **understanding** each other through regular whole class performance work. Students are supported to do this in Key Stage 3 with their teacher acting as a facilitator and role model, with students also being given some opportunities to lead this themselves. More responsibility is transferred to students in Key Stage 4 with smaller ensemble work taking place. Our curriculum develops students' awareness of the importance of teamwork and of their individual contribution to group work.
- **Competence:**
 - Our curriculum aims to develop students' competence in three core areas: **Performing** (instrumental and vocal skills, ensemble skills), **Composing** (creating and developing, use of music technology), and **Appraising** (general musicianship, musical language including notation). Students will progress in these three skills across the schemes of learning from Years 7 to 11.
 - Our curriculum aims to ensure that students have a deep musical understanding by ensuring each topic covers **technical, expressive, and constructive** elements.
 - Our curriculum is **ambitious** and **rigorous** to ensure pupils have a strong academic understanding of music, are well-prepared to access the next phase, and are challenged to perform to the best of their ability. Students are taught a wide range of musical vocabulary and theory, they are taught using music notation, and are given increasingly challenging music to learn and perform across voice, piano, guitar, bass, and drums.