

### Would you like to play an instrument or learn to sing?

I would like to bring to your attention the availability of instrumental/voice lessons within the Music department from September. Making music can be an incredibly rewarding activity whether it is personal satisfaction and pride in mastering a new skill, or the thrill of performing in front of friends and family in a major concert venue. As well as learning a specific skill which can remain for life it can also enrich and support many other aspects of learning. The mounting scientific evidence repeatedly confirms that the study of music has measurable and lasting positive effects for health, overall growth and development and social skills as well as academic benefits. Musical training positively affects the following areas:

- self-discipline
- concentration
- problem-solving
- attention
- learning strategies
- builds working habits
- creativity
- self-confidence
- self-esteem
- coordination

There are many instruments to choose from and such a wide range of musical styles from different times and places - everyone can enjoy the experience of playing a musical instrument. Music is an important part of many people's lives and the experience of learning a musical instrument will help develop a deeper understanding and lifelong love of music.

Instrumental/voice lessons are timetabled within the school day on a rotational basis. We have the following visiting peripatetic teachers and lessons available -

- Voice - Mr Hall All styles - male/female
- Woodwind - Mr Russell & Mr Walker Flute, Clarinet, Saxophones
- Brass - Mr Marchesi Trumpet, Cornet, Horn, Trombone (Tuba on request)
- Percussion - Mr Clarke Drum Kit, Timpani and Tuned Percussion
- Strings - Mrs Preece Violin, Viola, Cello
- Piano & Keyboards - Mr Hall or Mrs Preece Piano, Keyboards Guitar
- Mr Shaw Classical, Acoustic or Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar 2017/2018

We have a strong extra-curricular programme in music at Heckmondwike for all our students to participate in. Ensembles include -

- Concert Band (for instrumentalists of approximately grade 2 and above)
- Junior Band (for beginner and junior instrumentalists) • Senior Choir (open to all students in years 10-13)
- Junior Choir (open to all students in years 7-9)
- String Group (for all string players of all abilities)
- Guitar Group (for all guitarists, as directed by our guitar teacher)

- Soul Band (by invitation or audition)

and there are many other student led smaller groups and our annual full school production! (last year was 'We Will Rock')

In recent years our bands and choirs have toured Florida and Paris as well as frequent visits to London. All groups are regularly featured in performances both in school and out, including festival performances such as Music for Youth and the Marsden Jazz Festival. Our house music competition provides a showcase for musicians of all abilities. Also, there are of course numerous drama groups and productions taking place, including our annual musical, and some of these will specifically involve our musicians. If you are interested in your child having lessons in school please complete an application form and return it to the BUSINESS OFFICE as soon as possible to guarantee allocation of a place. NB - Current pupils who received lessons during 2016-17 and wish to continue with them also need to complete and submit a new form to ensure lessons continue in September Payment must be made each term before lessons are timetabled.

More information about the music and performing arts department is available on the school website - [www.heckgrammar.co.uk](http://www.heckgrammar.co.uk) following the department link. Mr G Cole Head of Music & Performing Arts [gcole@heckgrammar.co.uk](mailto:gcole@heckgrammar.co.uk)