

Welcome to the...



HECKMONDWIKE
GRAMMAR SCHOOL



Heckmondwike Grammar School Music Department

At Heckmondwike Grammar every pupil from year 7 to 13 is given the opportunity to express themselves through the pleasures of music-making.

We are an extremely busy, popular and successful department, whether it's making music in class in year 7, GCSE or at A level, or taking up instrumental lessons from our highly experienced peripatetic staff, or joining the vast array of extra-curricular performance opportunities available to all students.

Curriculum Music Lessons



The Music and Drama department currently consists of five full-time staff, including two full time music teachers and seven part time peripatetic staff. Standards in the department are high with students achieving well academically and taking full advantage of the extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities provided.

In year 7 and 8 all students are timetabled for an hour of music per week and taught in half-size classes of 15. Music lessons are often of a very practical nature with topics including Pop Bands, Ukuleles, Samba Band, African Drumming, Film Scoring and Music Technology. This is backed up by theoretical work in notation, elements and a broad range of stylistic listening topics.

In key stage 4 the department currently offers examination courses in both GCSE Music and GCSE Drama. A-Level courses are currently offered in both Music and Drama. Examination results are very pleasing with the department regularly achieving a 100% pass rate along with many high grades.



Resources

Main Music Area

Includes 1 large classroom with a new Clavinova digital piano, 16 keyboards, 3 drum kits, PA, a large store area, an upright piano and 4 practice rooms each with digital pianos.

PC Classroom

A 30 PC music lab with MIDI keyboards, Sibelius, Cubase and Audacity software. iPads are bookable where we use GarageBand and LaunchPad apps.

Recording Studio

This is built around a 16 track digital recording system and a wide range of professional microphones. The area includes a control room and live room, a full drum kit, digital piano, guitars and amps. An additional 5 purpose built very hi-spec music technology computers running Cubase with Focusrite audio interfaces are available for GCSE and A level students.



Further Equipment

In addition to a full range of general classroom keyboards and percussion we have a full set of Samba drums and African drums, a full size professional xylophone and glockenspiel, 4 timpani and a variety of percussion, guitars, mics and amplifiers.

Drama Studio and Main Hall

Many of our concerts and recitals (and some rehearsals) take place in our main school hall or drama studio. These are both fitted with PA audio systems and lighting displays. There are 2 acoustic pianos available - a brand new upright piano and a 100 year old Steinway grand piano!

Peripatetic Instrumental/Vocal Lessons

We are fortunate in having seven visiting instrumental staff. Our staff are all hand-picked and represent experienced performers in their field. Instrumental and voice lessons are timetabled within the school day on a rotational basis.

Options include – Woodwind, Brass, Strings, Percussion, Piano, Singing, Drums, Guitars.

For further details of lessons please contact the school office.



Extra-Curricular Activities

We have a full and envious range of extra-curricular music and performing arts activities. Ensembles include - Junior Choir, Senior Choir, Concert Band, Soul Band, String Group, Guitar Group, Percussion Group, an a cappella choir, a senior girls choir and a Theory club. Lunchtime & after school rehearsals usually take place in the music area and larger ensembles use the drama studio.



Concerts take place both in and out of school. We have performed at a variety of local venues and at the Marsden Jazz Festivals, Music for Youth and Huddersfield University, as well as tours and trips including London in 2019.



Our regular themed concerts have featured ideas such as 'Music from the Movies', 'The Sound of Musicals', 'Music through the Decades', 'The Music of Disney' and 'Heroes and Villains'. At the end of each term we have our traditional Carol Service, Spring Concert or Summer concert; the latter of which features items from our annual inter-house music competition.

Productions

The music and drama department have put on many concerts and productions over the years. These have ranged from full musicals such as Little Shop of Horrors, Return to the Forbidden Planet, West Side Story and The Wiz, to plays with musical accompaniment such as An Inspector Calls and A Christmas Carol.

The school production the previous year was **We Will Rock You!**



Department Staff

Head of Department & School Timetabler

Mr G. Cole, BMus (Hons), MMus (dist), PGCE

Teacher of Music

Miss L Sutcliffe, BA (Hons), MA (dist) PGCE

Teacher of Art and Music

Miss J Bannister, BA (Hons), PGCE

Teacher of Drama and Music

Miss K Rattigan, BA (Hons), PGCE

Instrumental Music Teachers:

Mr D. Hall, MA (Oxon), MA, Dip ABRSM

Mrs R. Hutton-Searle, BA, PGCE

Mr E. Marchesi, Music Diploma (dist)

Mrs A. Preece, BMus, LRSM, Dip ABRSM

Miss L Rosborough, BMus

Mr J. Russell, BA

Mr C. Shaw, BMus

Voice and Piano

Strings

Brass

Piano

Drums & Tuned Percussion

Woodwind

Guitars



For further specific information visit our department on the school website
or follow us on twitter -



www.twitter.com/HGSMusicDrama

