



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**
- **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 -

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| • Mr Hall | <i>Singing - All styles (male/female)</i> |
| • Mr Russell | <i>Woodwind - Flute, Clarinet, Saxophones</i> |
| • Mr Dolling | <i>Brass - Trumpet, Cornet, Horn, Trombone, Tuba</i> |
| • Mr Merry | <i>Drum Kit, Orchestral and Tuned Percussion</i> |
| • Miss Berry | <i>Upper Strings - Violin, Viola</i> |
| • Mrs Worboys-Hodgson | <i>Lower Strings - Cello, Double Bass</i> |
| • Mr Dunster-Sigtermans | <i>Electric Guitar, Bass Guitar, Classical</i> |
| • Mrs Dolling | <i>Piano</i> |



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

- Concert Orchestra (for instrumentalists of about grade 2 and above)
- Senior Choir (open to all students in years 10-13)
- Junior Choir (open to all students in years 7-9)
- String Group (for string players of all abilities)
- Brass Group (for brass players of all abilities)
- Woodwind Group (for woodwind players of all abilities)
- Percussion Group (open to all students in all years)
- Rock & Pop Club (open to all students in all years)
- Soul Band (by invitation or audition)
- + various other vocal groups and ensembles



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, along with The Great Yorkshire Show last year. Our house music competition provides a showcase for musicians of all abilities. We also have frequently undertaken theatre trips and music workshops.

There are also numerous performing arts productions taking place, including our annual full school production, and these will specifically involve our musicians along with the drama dept. Recent productions have included 'We Will Rock', 'Little Shop of Horrors', 'Grease', 'The Addams Family' and last year it was 'Shrek: The Musical' – all with live 'pit band' musicians.



If you are interested in your child having lessons in school please complete an application form or contact the **finance office** as soon as possible to guarantee allocation of a place. If you wish to apply for music lessons, please complete the Application Form link from the school website here - <https://www.heckgrammar.co.uk/music>

To ensure lessons continue each term. Payment must be made each term before lessons are timetabled.

More information about the music and drama department is available on the school website - www.heckgrammar.co.uk following the department link.

We are also on X at [@hgsMusicDrama](https://twitter.com/hgsMusicDrama) and Instagram at [hgs_musicdept](https://www.instagram.com/hgs_musicdept)

Mr G Cole

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