



IPSWICH HIGH SCHOOL
WOOLVERSTONE HALL
SUFFOLK, ENGLAND

MUSIC

at Ipswich High School





MUSIC MATTERS

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. It plays a significant part of life at Ipswich High School and students are encouraged to take part in whatever style of music they enjoy.

Music can enhance the mind, physical coordination and expression. Students develop confidence and self-awareness alongside collaboration and empathy; significant skills to help them thrive in education and the workplace.



"Music helps me zone out from the outside world. I forget everything that is worrying me."

Sophia, Year 9



THE MUSIC SCHOOL

The Music School is comprised of two large teaching rooms equipped for composition, performance and appraisal. A trolley of laptops and a suite of electronic keyboards ensures students can work individually or collaboratively.

A large rehearsal room and six practice rooms, each containing an acoustic or digital piano, are used for ensembles and individual lessons. Some rooms contain drum kits and guitars. In addition, the Leggett Room is used for chamber music performances, while the theatre hosts large concerts, competitions and productions.

Our Prep School has its own dedicated music room, including access to an extensive range of tuned and untuned percussion instruments.



WHY STUDY MUSIC?

We believe that all of our students benefit from taking part in Music lessons. Not only does studying Music enhance learning skills, communication skills and creativity, but it also encourages teamwork, discipline, cultural awareness, respect for others, and self-esteem through personal accomplishment.

We work collaboratively with other departments to create cross-curricular projects and performance work, as well as working with visiting musicians to enrich the experience of our pupils.



PREP

Our aim is to engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music, thereby increasing their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.

Pupils will be taught to sing, to use their voices expressively, and to play musically with increasing control, accuracy, fluency and expression.

As they progress through our Prep School they will learn to play and perform as a soloist and in an ensemble, improvise and compose music and understand staff and other musical notations.

From Year 2 to Year 5 all pupils take part in our PRIMO programme learning a different instrument each year as part of the school curriculum. They will learn:

- Year 2 - Keyboards
- Year 3 - Toot (Flute)
- Year 4 - Violin or Cello
- Year 5 - Trumpet or Trombone

Pupils will also explore, a wide range of live and recorded music from different traditions and from great composers.

YEARS 7 - 8

During this course pupils will build on previous Music knowledge and skills through performing, composing and listening.

They will be taught to play and perform confidently as a soloist and in an ensemble using their voice and instruments, develop musical improvisation and composing skills by drawing on a range of musical structures, styles, genres and traditions and use staff and notations appropriately and accurately.

As well as performance skills, pupils will also learn how to identify and use different types of scales, tonalities and other musical devices expressively and with increasing sophistication, and to develop a deepening understanding of the music that great composers and musicians create.

In Year 8, students can gain a qualification in an Arts Award.



EDEXCEL GCSE

Students will enjoy Music GCSE if they have an enthusiasm for learning about all styles of music and developing their composing, music technology and performing skills.

In Year 9, students will study the basic skills which will enable them to achieve an excellent result in GCSE Music, as well as broadening their awareness of different musical styles.

The course has three parts which cover the key areas of Music; performance, composition and appraisal.

Students will have opportunities to perform as a soloist and ensemble member. Two of their performances in GCSE (one as soloist and one as ensemble member) will be recorded, marked by their teacher and submitted to the exam board.

They will also be taught how to compose to a given brief. For their coursework, students will compose one piece to a brief set by the board and one piece to their own brief.

EDUQAS A LEVEL

This course builds on the skills obtained at GCSE. Students may choose to specialise in performance or composition and select different musical genres for analysis.

The three main sections of the course are performance, composition, and appraisal.

Compositional techniques are taught as part of the course and students will be shown how to refine their work. They will compose two or three pieces, depending on their specialism.

Students will also take part in a short recital, either on an instrument or voice. Repertoire can include: Classical Music, Jazz, Musicals, Rock and Pop, 20th or 21st Century Music and one own choice piece.

An A Level in Music can lead to further study at universities or conservatoires. Employers value musicians as they have excellent interpersonal skills, as well as being organised and highly motivated.





MUSIC ENRICHMENT

Everyone is encouraged to participate in Music, from Year 1 through to Year 13. There are many opportunities, as part of our extensive Enrichment Programme, which allows students to extend their interests or try something new.

For performers, clubs are as diverse as RockSchool, Ukulele Club, Senior Orchestra and Advanced Strings, and there are several small, specialist ensembles.

Composers' Club and Music Tech Club appeal to students in all year groups, while singing is extremely popular throughout the school. The choirs offer students the opportunity to sing everything from baroque and musicals, to the latest pop hits.

CONCERTS & COMPETITIONS

All students in Years 7 and 8 take part in the Summer and Winter Concerts. In addition, there are regular performance opportunities such as Year group concerts throughout the school year.

In the Prep School, all pupils are encouraged to participate in productions, assemblies and competitions. There are bountiful opportunities for all to shine.

Many students choose to take part in local and national competitions, either as a soloist or as part of a group. We also have a large number of students who take part in county and national ensembles or participate in residential music courses.



INDIVIDUAL LESSONS



We have a team of highly qualified and experienced music teachers who visit the school to give lessons in a wide variety of instruments and in vocal training.

Students can take ABRSM examinations in school, and are helped to prepare for these in scales, aural and sightreading clubs. Students who may choose to enter examinations with other boards are helped to prepare for these too.



"The discipline and organisational skills I learned in playing an instrument can be applied to all of my A level subjects."

Richard, Year 12



ARTS AWARD

In Year 8, all of our students are entered for the Bronze Arts Award.

This is a nationally recognised Level 1 qualification, that can then be built on, should students wish to continue working towards Silver and Gold in subsequent years.

We believe this qualification not only supports and enhances the work we do in our lessons, but also broadens students' horizons in terms of a greater knowledge and understanding of the arts sector and careers whilst also providing inspiration for further study.



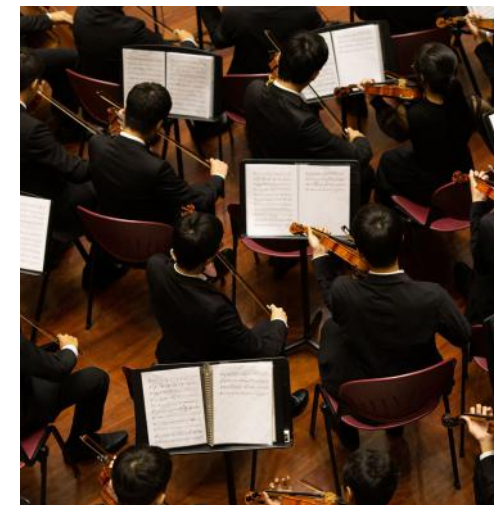
TRIPS & TOURS

Each year the Performing Arts Department visits London for a three-day residential trip. This includes workshops, backstage tours, a musical, a play and a concert.

Longer Performing Arts trips and Music tours are also held regularly and have included such exciting destinations as New York.

VISITING MUSICIANS

Working with visiting musicians can be extremely stimulating and inspiring. In the past few years students have sung with the leading a cappella group 'Out of the Blue', composed music for The London Mozart Players and created music for a rhythm project with renowned composer Fraser Trainer.





SCHOOL PRODUCTIONS



Each year the Performing Arts Departments join together to collaborate on a full-scale musical theatre production for the Senior School.

Each production takes place in our Hayworth Theatre, a fully equipped theatre, with lighting and sound, and a capacity for 350 audience members.

The experience of rehearsing and performing a production of this scale develops skills and confidence, as well as being an unforgettable experience and an opportunity to come together creatively as a school.

Previous productions have included:

Our House: The Madness Musical

The Addams Family

Beauty & The Beast



Into The Woods

Joseph & The Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat

Excellence in Performing Arts



Photograph from Beauty & The Beast



MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Music scholarships are available to students entering Year 7 and to new students entering the school in Year 9. These scholarships, each with their own tuition fee award, are carried through to Year 11. Those entering Year 12 can apply for a Sophie Youngman Scholarship for Music. We look for scholars who have a passion for music, a desire to develop their skills both technically and musically and significant potential in their voice or instrument, as well as excellent aural skills and a willingness to share their talents.

All Music scholarship applications will be reviewed by the Director of Music who will then invite those shortlisted for interview and assessment. This will involve a morning or afternoon in the Music School, undertaking some music assessments and an interview with the Director of Music.

For further information on our Music Scholarships please contact our Admissions Department:

admissions@ipswichhighschool.co.uk



CONTACT US

For further information about Ipswich High School, our Music offer, admissions or the scholarship process and to arrange a private tour, please contact our Registrar:

01473 201058

admissions@ipswichhighschool.co.uk

FOLLOW US

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