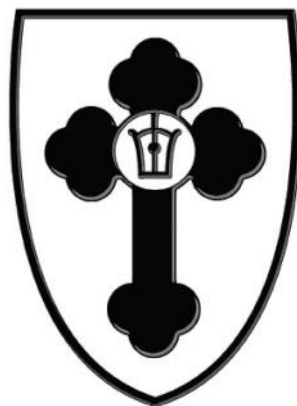


MUSIC

WILLIAM BROOKES SCHOOL



Music

Parents' Music Guide
2009 - 2010

RATIONALE

It is our belief that music is a vital curriculum subject that fosters concentration, commitment and self-discipline. It offers the opportunity to develop the collective responsibility and team skills essential to the citizenship curriculum, and to the overall social development of our students.

FACILITIES

The department is part of "The Edge" Arts Centre. It houses two large teaching rooms. One has a suite of 15 computers enabling all Years 7 - 9 and GCSE pupils to gain experience of Music Technology in a totally 'hands on' environment. The second is equipped with tuned and untuned percussion. There are two instrumental teaching rooms and a private study area for A level students, which is equipped with 'state of the art' recording, sound design and composition facilities.



THE TEAM:

Mrs Penny Jaeger, joined William Brookes as Director of Music in September 2005. Her remit is to use her extensive experience to deliver opportunities for students to succeed in GCSE, A/S and A level Music and Music Technology courses. Additionally she aims to enhance the extensive range of opportunity to participate in music making that already exists through the Performing Arts facility at William Brookes. Miss G Busfield joined the school in January 2009 as a full time music teacher to support the growing needs of the music department. Ms Alison Vermeec (Arts Centre Director) supports all performing arts activities.

Instrumental Lessons In partnership with Shropshire Music Services, the school offers instrumental lessons to students on a variety of instruments. These lessons are scheduled and taught in school time. Many students are also member of the County's Choir, Orchestras and Wind Bands, which give regular recitals.

Approach Classes are taught in mixed-ability groups and the approach is active, involving work with instruments and voices. Students are encouraged to see music in the context of the whole spectrum of arts and to use words, images and

movement to complement their music.

Concerts and Productions We intend to hold a concert of eclectic musical mix each term and additionally a church carol service at Christmas. A full scale 'rock gig' and 'W Factor' contest are scheduled for this year. In collaboration with our dance and drama colleagues we are planning a major musical production for 2010.

N.B. All students staying for after school clubs can take advantage of the 5.15 bus to Broseley, Ironbridge and Madeley.

The Curriculum

Students in Years 7 – 9 All study Music and Music Technology. Their course is centred around the structure of music, and allows pupils to study a vast range of musical genres from Classical to Rap. Each unit of work undertaken covers the four strands of the National Curriculum: Listening, composing, performing and appraising. Throughout the course, pupils are encouraged to develop their creativity through a variety of media, instruments and music technology.

GCSE From Year 10, students can opt to study Music at GCSE Level. This entitles them to 4 hours of Music education per fortnight. Over the two years, the course covers a wide variety of music from the Renaissance era up to the modern popular genres. The syllabus is AQA with 50% assessed internally with 25% on each of composing and performing. Listening and appraising (25%) is assessed externally, as is an integrated study involving all three topics of composition, performance and appraisal (25%). Throughout the course, students are actively encouraged to join groups and ensembles to further their musical ability.

'A' Level At AS Level students have the option of studying Music or Music Technology (or both!) The more traditional Music course further develops the skills learnt at GCSE through a variety of listening, composing, performing and analysing tasks. Performing and compositional techniques are developed along with analytical skills.

'A' Level Music Technology This rapidly expanding subject offers a 2-year course in sound engineering, sound design and composition using the latest music technology equipment. There is a particular emphasis on practical work with 75% of the assessment based on coursework submissions. The course focuses on sound recording techniques and midi sequencing. At both AS and A2 levels, students complete a variety of coursework tasks demonstrating their knowledge and ability in the above disciplines together with a high degree of creativity.

Extra Curricular Music

Various ensembles are established to provide opportunities for students to participate in music making:

String Group Rehearsal	Monday 1.00 - 1.30
Technology - The Music technology suit is available to students to spend time on examination coursework or to gain experience with specialist Music software	Monday 3.45 - 5.00
School Orchestra - All players are welcome!	Monday 3.30 - 5.00
Y10 GCSE Music Extra Curricular Group. An opportunity for students who find it difficult to fit Music into their curriculum studies to gain a Music GCSE qualification. In addition to developing an understanding of Music theory and listening perspectives, students have an opportunity to develop their playing skills both individually and in groups	Tuesday 4.00 - 6.00

Soul Band Rehearsal	Tuesday 3.30 - 5.00
School Choir - Open access (students and staff) and performs regularly in the school and community	Wednesday 1.10 - 1.40
Access GCSE- Gifted & Talented lower school musicians working towards GCSE Music at an early stage	Wednesday 4.00 - 6.00
Xpress Club - students work towards a concert featuring different types & styles of bands	Thursday 4.00 - 5.00
Theory - A session where students work through Associated Board examination papers with the view to sitting examinations when appropriate	Friday 1.00 - 1.30
The Much Wenlock Male Voice Choir & the Ladies Choir also rehearse at the school	

MUSIC

