

Higham Lane North Academy

Higham Lane North Academy is a brand-new secondary school with a proposed PAN by 2030 of 920. This includes 20 students who will attend our Specialist Resource Provision. 26 % of students have SEN support, 9% of students have EHCPs, 17 % are eligible for Pupil Premium and 1.5 % of our students have English as an additional language.

Music Curriculum at Higham Lane North Academy

Music is currently delivered by one highly qualified specialist music teacher, Katie Harris. The Music Department has one well-equipped room, three practice rooms with piano and drum kits and a student instrument storeroom. The Music classroom is equipped with fifteen keyboards, computers with Sibelius software and a teaching piano. Ukuleles, djembes, guitars, amplifiers, samba, soprano steel pans and a variety of pitched, handheld percussion instruments are also well resourced.

Our KS3 Music Curriculum has been designed to engage, inspire and challenge students focusing on composing, performing, listening and appraising and to build upon prior knowledge at KS2. As students join us from a wide catchment area of different primary schools, our aims are to build confidence within the main 4 skills and to introduce the foundations of music theory, playing a variety of instruments and promote engagement and motivation during lesson time in a practical way.

By being creative, experimental and inventive, our students are encouraged to work individually, in pairs or within a group ensemble to equip themselves with knowledge, understanding and skills within various genres. Students also begin to understand and recognise how music shapes their daily emotions, whether being through diverse cultures, history or daily life. Schemes of learning and learning resources Schemes of learning are clearly designed to engage, inspire and challenge students using basic elements of music, their voices, body percussion and percussive instruments, Western verses World to reinforce key content during carefully structures topics, regular informative and formative assessments and many opportunities to recap and reinforce prior learning.

As singing is a vital part of the Music National Curriculum, we encourage students to use their voices as much as possible during their KS3 lessons. Alongside our schemes, knowledge organisers are incorporated to deepen and retain prior information, keywords and characteristics of each topic, work journals to encourage independent, home learning and conversation booklets enable us to define and share core knowledge for our students to consider when marked within the school's feedback policy.

Students are issued with a knowledge booklet that our lessons are built from. Subject knowledge focusing on keywords, characteristics, performance and/or compositional

tasks that are key with level descriptors on how to achieve during assessments. Our lessons begin with a 'Do Now, rapid recall' activity for students to recall and recap essential knowledge independently or in pairs. These activities are streamlined across the department, as are our power points for consistency, but teachers may devise their own, differentiating between the teaching groups. Starter activities enable teachers to check for students understanding and assists to consolidate future learning. Further strategies for students to remember what they have learn includes thorough, effective questioning and explanations. Teachers use a variety of questioning strategies such as 'cold call', 'no opt out' and 'think, pair, share' discussions to ensure all students participate actively during lesson time. Modelling of tasks is also key when introducing, supporting and reinforcing students learning as they improve their work using the success criteria that is set and lesson challenge.

Extra-curricular at Higham Lane North Academy and Musical Experiences

Beyond our class teaching, students are given the opportunity to expand their musical experience by attending Co-curricular within school and Warwickshire County Music Service. At school we currently offer the following activities:

- School Choir
- Jamming Club
- School Orchestra
- Keyboard Club
- Room bookings during lunchtimes and after school
- Annual Carol Service, Christmas Concert and Summer Showcase Money raised by the department at concerts e.g. ticket sales and refreshments allows the school to extend their budget to cover purchasing new equipment, as well as maintaining existing resources
- Transition assemblies
- A Musical production linked with the Drama Department
- Trips

Instrumental provision by County Music is currently:

- Strings: Violin
- Guitar: Acoustic and Electric
- Woodwind: Flute, Clarinet
- Drums