



## THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT AT RIPON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

### STAFFING

The post arises as a result of the present member of staff going on maternity leave. The successful candidate will work with the Director of Music, a part time technician and a strong team of visiting peripatetic teachers who visit the school each week, providing tuition in the full range of orchestral and non-orchestral instruments.

### FACILITIES & RESOURCES

The Department is housed in a new purpose-built music block consisting of a large rehearsal space, ICT room, recording studio and practice rooms.

#### Resources include:

- 15 iMacs running Logic Express and Sibelius
- A fully equipped recording studio running Logic Pro X
- A full class of classroom percussion instruments
- A good range of orchestral and band instruments including orchestral percussion, baritone sax and two double basses.
- Practice facilities

### CURRICULUM

All Key Stage 3 pupils have over an hour of academic music lessons each week. These cover skills in listening, theory, composition and performance across a wider variety of topics.

At Key Stage 4 we deliver GCSE OCR course while in the Sixth Form we offer OCR A level Music and Edexcel Music Technology courses. The department also offers enrichment as part of a General Studies programme and support and guidance to students taking the Extended Project Qualification in a related area of study.

### ENSEMBLES

The department encourages the school's musicians to play an active role in its co-curricular groups and aims to offer a broad range of high quality ensembles to its pupils. Junior groups rehearse every week with a view to pupils moving up to the senior ensembles. The school currently runs:

**Chamber Orchestra**

**Wind Band**

**Music Technology Club**

**Big Band**

**Brass Ensemble**

**Theory Classes**

**Junior Strings**

**Chamber Choir**

**Percussion Ensemble**

**Senior Girls' Choir**

**Man Choir**

**Junior Choir**

## **MUSIC IN SCHOOL**

Music plays a central role in the daily life of the school; music is played in each assembly with live performances by our students every Friday. A significant number of pupils have instrumental lessons in school and many are members of the ensembles listed above. The school has hosted master-classes given by musicians from Opera North and academics from Leeds University. We are fortunate to get free tickets to local concerts and many students enjoy the opportunity to hear professional musicians perform. As well as weekly lunchtime recitals, the music department hosts several concerts in school during the academic year and the choirs and ensembles take a prominent role in the school Carol Service and Commemoration Service in Ripon Cathedral. The choirs have recorded a disc of Christmas music and will go on tour in the summer of 2019. Many students are in county and even national youth choirs and ensembles. In recent years several students have gone on to be awarded choral or instrumental scholarships to Oxbridge and Russell Group universities.

## **MUSIC IN THE COMMUNITY**

The department is developing strong links within Ripon, playing concerts for local charities and festivals and feeding its pupils into local orchestras, choirs and bands. Most recently, school ensembles have performed at the Northern Aldborough Festival, The Great Yorkshire Show, the Ripon Cathedral Festival and Durham University. In doing so our pupils spread the message of the quality of their work, the enjoyment they take from the subject, and the thriving musical culture that exists at the school.

*October 2018*