

Music Department

Bryn Hafren's Music Department offers a wide range of activities designed to help develop your skills and increase your self-confidence. As so many varied topics are covered, you don't need to be a grade-8 instrumentalist to be able to enjoy music lessons!

In **KEY STAGE 3**, pupils are introduced to music through listening, performing and composing. This is all taught through a variety of modules including:

YEAR 7

Making Music - with the opportunity to use the computer suite and the programme Cubase, which is used by professional musicians.

Welsh Music - just in time for the school Eisteddfod!

Rock & Roll - Well it's one for the money, two for the show...!

YEAR 8

Medieval Music - Did you know there used to be a musical instrument made from a sheep's bladder? Don't worry; we won't make you play one!

The Blues - From the cotton fields to the stage: a look at how the Blues has become one of the most popular musical genres.

Rap & Hip-Hop - From New York's Bronx to worldwide fame.

Who were the godfather's of rap? Where and how did rap originate?

YEAR 9

Music & the Media - How is music used in film and television? How does music stir up emotions and why is it used to encourage you to buy things?

The Music of Cuba - Learn about the history of revolution and a unique group of elderly musicians known as The Buena Vista Social Club.

Minimalism - Music stripped down to its most basic features: pupils will learn about composers such as Steve Reich and Philip Glass.

GCSE MUSIC

This course allows pupils to develop their academic, practical and creative skills. In lessons time is spent:

Composing - Creating your own music.

Performing - Not only playing as a member of a group but also as a soloist.

Listening - Gaining an appreciation and understanding of a wide range of music throughout history.

In order to enjoy this subject and do well at GCSE you need to be able to:

- *Be skilled on an instrument (the voice is an instrument too!)
- *Develop the confidence to perform in front of others
- *Be imaginative and well organised
- *Be willing and able to create your own music
- *Enjoy becoming involved in a variety of musical activities including the extra-curricular clubs run by the school.

Performing and composing count towards coursework and make up 60% of the overall mark. The remaining 40% of marks are gained in the listening examination, which takes place at the end of Year 11.

WHAT ELSE DOES THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT OFFER?

A team of peripatetic teachers visit the school each week to give instrumental lessons. This means that there is the opportunity to learn a number of instruments including:

Violin, Viola, Cello, Piano, Keyboard, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Drums, Saxophone, Flute, Trumpet, Cornet, Trombone, Voice and more! If you are interested ask your music teacher for a letter.

If you enjoy singing and feel confident as a performer then every Monday after school, the **choir** meets to rehearse in G37. If you can't make it after school then go along to the Thursday lunchtime rehearsals in G37.

If you like Soul or Jazz then why not try **Soul Band**, held in G37 every Tuesday after school until 4pm?

Each group performs in school concerts throughout the year as well as the annual show in Barry Memorial Hall.

New

The Music department will be teaming up with the Welsh department to create a Welsh language choir. Take the opportunity to sing some fabulous music in the language of our fathers!