

The Music Department at Calthorpe Park School



The Music Department at Calthorpe Park School (CPS) is committed to promoting and motivating progression in all areas of Music. We have a record of excellent organisation and learning initiatives which have resulted in outstanding examination success. We work cohesively and ensure consistency across all teaching groups and have high expectations of all students. Our students enjoy the learning and teaching of music.

Key Features of the Music Department:

The Music Department is housed at the front of the school and in a classroom adjacent to the school hall.

Music 1 is a multi-purpose classroom which can accommodate Key Stage 3 music-making, GCSE Music and Music Technology. It has a small recording studio which Music Technology students are able to use.

Music 2 is most suitable for Key Stage 3 music-making, it can accommodate GCSE Music occasionally, and has accommodated Creative Media.

Music 3 is a smaller classroom adjacent to the hall, which is best suited for Music Technology and Creative Media. It cannot easily accommodate Key Stage 3 music-making.



Music classrooms **are dedicated spaces**, and classes which are not Music classes do not make use of these rooms except in an emergency.

Choirs, rehearsals and ensembles take place in Music 1, Music 2 and Music 3.

The school has an extensive range of instruments which has been well maintained over the years.

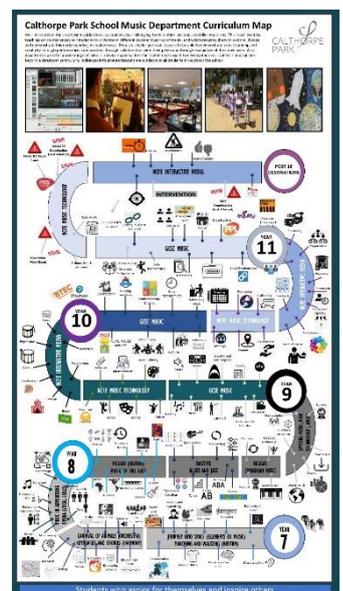
The Music department has an extensive range of books, printed music, digitally sourced music and subscriptions to music score sharing sites.

The music department is also supported by a qualified and fully trained music technology technician.

The department has a good range of digital resources, which includes specific software for music composition, using music technology, MIDI keyboards, a small recording studio and a range of dynamic and condenser microphones. The department has a 32 track Behringer digital mixing desk which is used for concerts and school performances. A full set of MIDI keyboards is available for students to use, as is a wide range of event / concert equipment which allows students an hands-on experience of setting up and event.

Students have many opportunities to hear adults sing through concerts with guest performers and school trips to see shows and concerts. Singing is also modelled by teachers in lesson.

Students play a variety of instruments in all their lessons at KS3 level. These include keyboards, percussion, guitars, ukulele and at times drums. There are regular assessments that occur every half term to see where students are musically on each instrument and success criteria accommodates the experience and time spent on each instrument throughout the topics primarily focus on technique and the overall performance.



At GCSE level students specialise in their instrument or voice and regularly perform solo and ensembles as preparation of their GCSE coursework. Students across the school are able to experience live instrumental music through school trips.

Music technology is used at various points in KS3 Music tech as a learning resource. We use online software, Education Bandlab, to help students understand how songs are made and make use of loops and midi in topics linked to genres of music such as Blues, Reggae and Jazz. We also make use of popular online resources, such as Audiotool and Online Sequencer.

Extra-curricular and Co-Curricular music are very important and flourishing aspects of Music at Calthorpe Park School. We pride ourselves in being a welcoming space for any student of any musical ability to join our extensive provision of music clubs. We also offer use of practise rooms before, during, and after school to help facilitate student-run groups and individualised practice.

We commission private tutors as well as using tutors from the Hampshire Music Service. Members of the Music Department teaching staff are also involved in the delivery of instrumental lessons.

Extracurricular activities are free to attend and participate in. These are led by the music teachers in the school and is done during lunch and afterschool. We have a separate budget dedicated to resourcing extra-curricular music such as buying scores to perform in concerts. We work a lot in partnership with the Drama department to provide the increasingly successful yearly production of a musical with Cast and Crew being 100+ members.



Calthorpe Park School works in partnership with many schools, both primary and secondary. We host the North Hampshire Secondary Music Panel meetings where secondary schools in the local area meet regularly to discuss and share ideas, issues and good practice within Music education. These meetings provide good opportunities to converse and discuss GCSE

coursework too.

Our school has achieved Stage 1 of the International Schools Award for our music developmental work with our partner schools in Sri Lanka. Fundraising has purchased five complete samba sets which we have taken to our partner schools in Sri Lanka and set up five performing groups. These groups now perform at local events in the Eastern Province of Sri Lanka.



Our music department has a very good relationship with the Hampshire Music Service. We work in partnership with the music service team in hosting and providing events such as the Winchester event where all primary school students who learn with Hampshire music came together as one big orchestra playing a variety of pieces in front of an audience.

More recently we have joined in the Primary school Music panel meetings where feeder schools discussed how their curriculum pairs up with secondary school music. This is becoming a regular addition to the meetings across the year. From these meetings we have also arranged a joint event bridging together primary and secondary musicians.

Music Results 2024
4-9: 80%
7-9: 50%