



Our vision for the Creative Arts Faculty is to work with students, encouraging them to be able to use imagination and critical thinking skills, reflecting and commenting on their work and the work of others, with confidence and skill. To not be afraid to share ideas and opinions, understand and use transferable skills and 'think outside the box'.

We want students within the Creative Arts to take risks, be independent, thoughtful, and flexible learners. Creativity and creative teaching makes learning fun and increases student engagement and performance.

Within the Arts we strive to make cultural and creative links, promoting acceptance and tolerance by exploring different views and opinions through the Arts.

We have a huge range of creative opportunities at Oxford Spire Academy. In Year 7, 8 and 9 all students receive an hour of Music every week. At KS3 our subjects are 'hands on' and very practical encouraging the students to participate and experience Creative Arts first-hand.

Our spiral curriculum means skills are taught and then revisited over the two years to consolidate the knowledge, skills and understanding students need for GCSE.

### KS3

In Music we have a one-hour lesson every week – during this time we explore a wide range of topics;

- Singing – This allows us to make strong links to the KS2 curriculum
- Keyboard Skills/Elements of Music – developing students ability read, play and understand music
- Reggae – creating and awareness of music from other cultures and the impact it has on popular music

In Year 8 we continue to refine the skills necessary to do well in GCSE Music. We start to look at Music Technology in greater depth and students develop skills using Logic in order to create and compose music. Specifically, we look at Music for film and television, song writing, music from different cultures and the Blues.

We strongly encourage students to take up an instrument and we offer a range of Peripatetic instrumental lessons; students can learn everything from a Flute or a Cello to Piano, Guitar and Voice. Lessons start at about £11.00 for a one-to-one lesson with one of our professional instrumental teachers.

### KS4

Students have 2 hours of Music a week – allowing them to fully explore and develop their creative potential.

In Years 10 and 11 we follow the Edexcel Specification. Students complete two compositions, a solo performance and an ensemble performance. Component 3 is a listening and appraising paper that focuses on a range of different music studied throughout the course. Everything that we teach is rooted in practical exploration and understanding and encourage students to be 'musicians' not just 'music students'. If a student takes Music GCSE – it is vital they study an instrument as 30% of the course focus's on the individuals ability to perform.



Instrumental lessons are a wonderful way for students to explore and develop their musical understanding and skills. Here at OSA over 150 students receive instrumental tuition per week through a range of peripatetic instrumental teachers.

All students are entitled to receive lessons and if you are in receipt of Free School Meals, instrumental lessons are free. We provide tuition on: Piano and Keyboard, Guitar, Ukulele and Bass, Brass, Woodwind, Strings, Drums and Voice.



# “I love Music because creating rhythms and harmonies is so satisfying” - Year 10 Student

KS5

To follow Music or Music Technology at post-sixteen, you are strongly encouraged to have studied Music for GCSE and achieved a minimum of a Grade 6.

In Year 12 and Year 13 we follow the Edexcel Specification for both A Level Music and A Level Music Technology. Further developing and refining the skills learnt in KS4 and developing new skills. The teaching/learning time significantly increasing to nine hours per fortnight and students are really encouraged to work, rehearse, explore, develop, compose and refine ideas independently. The creative possibilities are endless and students are encouraged to see, experience and get involved in as many music opportunities as they can, both independently and through school opportunities.

After completing an Alevel in Music/Music Technology you can go on to do many different things following a University pathway or Apprenticeship route, for example; Arts Administrator, Composer for gaming/television, Programme researcher, Recording Engineer, Manager, Music Producer and Events Management.



In addition to the academic opportunities students can get involved in a wide range of extra curricular and enrichment opportunities. These range from instrumental tuition, Oxford Spires - Young Musician of the Year and the BIG Sing.

The team of Arts Leaders support events, inspiring younger students with their talent, commitment and dedication.

Oxford Spires Academy Music department has amazing facilities; Music is equally as well equipped with a purpose-built Music Room and recording studio with a suite of practice rooms. In addition to this the Mac Suite is used for Music and Media

Students from Year 7 to Year 13 have access to these spaces and are encouraged to use them to get creative!

