

# A Level MUSIC

## AS

There are three main units to the AS Music course: Performing; Composing and Understanding Music. If you have completed GCSE Music, this structure will be familiar to you. At AS level, however, you will have a chance to delve deeper into Music – read on to find out more. . . !

### Performing

A performance lasting 5 – 6 minutes for any instrument in any style. Standard required is grade 5 and you receive additional marks for grade 6 and above!

### Composing

You compose a piece for instruments or voices in any style, based on a set brief. You also write a CD sleeve note about your music.

### Developing Musical Understanding

You will study music from Renaissance to pop! You will also develop an understanding of chords and lines and how music fits together. You will sit a listening exam based on these pieces.

## A2

This course gives you the opportunity to specialise and develop your musicianship skills further. Once again, there are three units:

### Extended Performance

A recital performance lasting 12 – 15 minutes. You can use any instrument and play in any style, including improvising. Standard required is grade 6 and you receive additional marks for grade 7 and above.

### Composition and Technical Study

You will learn how to use harmony in the style of Bach and also complete one composition for this unit. This develops the skills you began learning at AS level.

### Further Musical Understanding

This assesses your musical knowledge through a listening exam and more in-depth discussion of set works. The music you will study includes classical, film and jazz music.

## Why study at Beauchamp?

The Music department gives you an ideal opportunity to learn, develop and push yourself to meet the challenges of music study at a higher level. We are a top quality department with excellent teachers and practitioners.

Facilities are excellent, with 20 computers running the latest Sibelius software, a suite of Mac computers, a fully functioning recording studio and a range of teaching spaces including well equipped classrooms and practice rooms. We are a partner school with the Philharmonia orchestra which gives students opportunities to attend open rehearsals, meet professional musicians and help in the development of musical projects and website features. There is a buzzing atmosphere and lots of musical activity with an extensive range of extra-curricula groups.

There are loads of music-making opportunities outside lesson time for you to get involved with. These include: Wind Band, Jazz Band, Chamber Choir, String Ensemble, Cello Quartet, Wind Quintet, String Quartet, Classical Guitar ensemble, Recorder Consort, Flute Choir, Saxophone ensemble, Clarinet Choir, Bins junk percussion and more besides, including rock bands and ensembles created especially for school shows.

The Music Department at Beauchamp aims to provide a centre for music-making and to include everyone from across the college, whether they are studying Music or not. The emphasis is on finding out about and creating music that you enjoy.