

SJC website Music page

Music is a highly successful and popular subject at St. Joseph's College. Teaching takes place in a well-equipped iMac Music Studio and a large keyboard classroom. Pupils can learn to play a variety of instruments and are given many opportunities to perform throughout the academic year.

At Key Stage 3 year seven and eight pupils have three lessons a fortnight, whilst year nine classes are twice a fortnight. Pupils learn about different kinds of music ranging from the Baroque and Classical periods to music from the Caribbean and Africa alongside the Blues and Latin jazz. Lessons are practical with singing, keyboards, GarageBand, drumming, samba and ukulele. Homework is set weekly on Fronter and helps to develop pupils' listening and appraising skills and correct use of musical vocabulary.

We offer the Edexcel GCSE, A Level and BTEC Level 3 Music courses to students who choose to continue their Music studies in Key Stages 4 and 5. There is a greater focus on performance skills alongside practical composition and songwriting coursework, whilst the GCSE and A Level courses have a single listening exam at the end. We consistently achieve outstanding results at GCSE, BTEC and A-level (86-100% pass rate). This is well above the national average for similar students. Many of our students go on to study Music and music-related subjects post-18.

Our bands and choirs are the soul of the Music Department. Each activity is free and all pupils are encouraged to join in.

	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	Ukulele Band	Junior Band (years 7-8)
Tuesday	Open Mic	Soul Band (year 9+)
Wednesday	African Drumming	Mass Band
Thursday	SJC Choir	The Classidelics
Friday	Guitar Friday	

We also run Five-Star Strings and the Samba Band. A number of pupils form their own bands and use the Music Studio as a regular rehearsal space.

Pupils can learn to play an instrument. We have a team of inspirational instrumental tutors who teach pupils on a one-to-one basis each week. Pupils can learn: violin, bass guitar, electric guitar, classical guitar, flute, clarinet, recorder, oboe, saxophone, trumpet, horn, trombone, tuba, drum kit, piano and keyboard. Click [here](#) to download a letter and form.

Throughout the year the Music Department runs various trips to for pupils to perform out of school or to watch live music. Recent trips include the GCSE BrightSparks concert at the Royal Festival Hall, the Music For Youth Festival and the 2013 tour to Disneyland Paris.

See the Music Department in action on our [YouTube channel](#). (link: <http://www.youtube.com/user/MusicwithStJosephs>)

“I’ve never learnt to play so much music since coming to St. Joseph’s. This year I’ve played in the bands and choir performing at Prize Night, Christmas and Global Awareness.” (Tristan, year 8)

“Playing in the Studio lets aspiring musicians grow and excel. You can learn from each other having a jamming session and using the recording studio.” (Ernest, year 11)

“The Music Department is full of exciting opportunities for everyone. It’s the perfect platform for developing an interest in music. I’ve always felt encouraged to get involved and make music.”
(Felix, year 13)