Quality of Education – MUSIC

INTENT Musical development mixes creativity, academia and sensitivity. It enables students to think in an artistic and open-minded way. It supports and improves concentration skills which can benefit other areas.

To improve it requires genuine practice which requires discipline and increased focus / concentration. Confidence and self-esteem develop through high quality music lessons and participating in school ensembles / concert. Cognitively, the two sides of the brain work more effectively together when playing an instrument.

Fine motor skills, technique, reading, timing & problem solving require complex brain functions which in turn increases attention span, focus, perseverance and resilience. Music enables strong and positive working relationships and friendships through collaboration; developing teamwork, communication and discipline.

Studying Music enables increased emotional ability and empathy, and a wider understanding of culture and the world around us.

IMPLEMENTATION

1/2 termly topics focusing on;

- Composing)
- Performing) skills through different
- Listening) styles of music

½ termly topics studying different styles / genres of Music, through which students develop their musical skills and knowledge. For example at Key stage 3;

Year 7; Keyboard Skills / African Drumming, Fanfares, Pentatonic Music, Rap Music, Descriptive Music, The Waltz.
Year 8; Cover Versions, Minor Keys, Reggae Music, Indian Music, Signature Tunes, The Beatles.
Year 9; The Blues, Film Music, Popular Song (rotation)

Keyboards, Music Technology and pupils using their own instruments underpin our lessons.

IMPACT

- Ethos of school embedded with music. Thornden Hall created to support music. Specifically designed around music.
- ↑ numbers of students engage with music:
  - Instruments
  - Singing
  - Groups
  - Lessons
- Wider engagement, wellbeing, confidence.
- Large extra-curricular programme of music groups / ensembles.
- Large programme of concerts each year.
- Strong GCSE uptake. Varied options at GCSE.
- When leaving Thornden many pupils continue to engage with and partake in music activities within the community and at college.

At college students go on to study; Music, Musical Theatre or Performing Arts.