Spiritual, Moral, Social & Cultural (SMSC) Development in MUSIC

SPIRITUAL – This aspect of the curriculum is encouraged through the experience and emotion of responding to performing, listening and composing music. We encourage our pupils to express their feelings verbally and in written form to improve their levels of articulacy. Where pupils are sensitive about expressing their feelings we nurture the confidence to do this by creating a supportive environment.

MORAL – We encourage out pupils to engage in critical discussions of musical performances and dramas/presentations from other students and also visiting professionals. Where there is a specific cultural or social reference that is explicit in the work examined we encourage pupils to reflect upon this. Where pupils present their own work we ensure fair and objective assessment and evaluation of their work.

SOCIAL – Students collaborate routinely in group tasks where they take responsibility for their own learning outcomes and progress. We encourage the skills of independence, resilience and time management. Where they engage in group tasks we build a sense of unity which leads to them addressing their individual abilities and strengths and learning to build upon these collaboratively. Where they are required to express their feelings students are encouraged to do this sensitively with an awareness of the needs of others. Through our programme of extra-curricular activities and clubs we ask students pool ideas for repertoire and to organise themselves.

CULTURAL – The resources and musical examples used across both Key Stages for our students encourage a respect and deep appreciation for cultures around the world that have contributed to the development of our current popular musical styles. This philosophy also underpins our selection of music for performance events whether they are informal or formal occasions. We encourage students to create their own music and to incorporate different musical influences in their own composition, particularly at KS4. We use a wide variety of instruments from around the world including Indonesian Gamelan, African Djembe Drumming and Latin American Samba to enrich the cultural experiences of our students.

Other specific examples of Spiritual, Moral Social and Cultural Development in Music include:

- Pupils have the opportunity to listen to, and participate in, performance for the school and wider community including event to raise money for charity and visits to residential homes.
- An appreciation of how different cultures have contributed to popular musical genres today is encouraged and nurtured in our students.
- Students’ cultural experiences are broadened and strengthened through our extra-curricular programme and the use of world music resources across both Key Stages which reflect the world we live in today.
- Pupils are encouraged to formulate and articulate their opinions of their own work, and the work of other people, and to express these with awareness and sensitivity towards the feelings of others.
- Pupils take part in a wide variety of different activities which require social skills, the ability to work collaboratively as part of a pair or group, and as part of their whole class in larger ensembles.