

# MUSIC

## A Level

### Why Study This Course?

- You enjoy performing both as part of an ensemble and individually
- You are interested in developing an understanding of different genres from classical to jazz and world music to popular
- You are grade 5 standard in one musical instrument (ABRSM or equivalent)
- You are grade 5 standard in music theory (ABRSM or equivalent)
- You enjoy listening to music, reading and researching
- You would like to develop an understanding of composing in traditional and non-traditional styles
- You would like to develop theoretical knowledge and part writing skills.



### Career Progression

- Many of our students have successfully secured places in prestigious conservatoires and universities, including the Royal Northern College of Music, University of Salford, University of Liverpool, Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Goldsmiths College.
- Students may also go on to have successful careers in the music industry working as performers, session musicians, radio producers, television producers, music producers and music journalism.

### What You'll Study

Year 1:

Students are taught in small A Level groups which allows for one to one support across the whole course. Course content is taught through practical based lessons, listening, analysis and composing.

Unit 3: Listening and Appraising (Film Music, Popular Music and Jazz, Instrumental Music)

Unit 2: Free composition

Unit 1: Performance

Building knowledge of music theory and prior skills.

Year 2:

Unit 3: Listening and Appraising (Fusions, New Directions, Vocal Music)

Unit 2: Composition to a Brief Assessing Technique

Unit 1: Performance

Building knowledge of music theory and prior skills.



# Why Study Music at PWSFC?

## Why I chose Music

"As someone who has done music since a young age, there are so many amazing opportunities that come with doing Music in the 6th form at Parrs Wood. I have been gifted with so many amazing and unforgettable experiences such as performing in the choir and being a part of the school musical. You also have a number of different instrumental lessons to choose from. The staff are the most supportive and genuine people who will help you with anything at any time if you're struggling no matter the time or place"

- Safa

## If you like this subject you may also like:

Music Technology, Drama, History, English Literature, English Language, Media Studies, Mathematics, ICT

## What We Expect From You

- Passion for music!
- Regular listening to a variety of styles of music
- Hard work
- Engagement with enrichment activities
- Regular instrumental/vocal practice

## What We Expect From You

- Experienced, dedicated and passionate staff
- Small group sizes to allow greater access to facilities and staff time
- Outstanding relationships with local and national higher education institutions
- UCAS guidance and support
- Being part of a busy, vibrant and fun department!

## Career Progression

- Excellent links with local universities/ conservatoires including the Royal Northern College of Music, the University of Manchester, the University of Salford, the dBs Institute and MMU
- 100% A\*-C grades for the last three years, with all students meeting/exceeding their target grades
- Small group sized to allow for greater access to facilities and staff contact time
- Dedicated Music facilities including two iMac suites, 10 practice rooms and a dedicated ensemble rehearsal space
- A large team of curriculum, instrumental and music industry professional staff to aid studies and enrichment interests
- Prioritised instrumental/vocal lessons
- Regular opportunities to see live performances of set works, especially through our excellent relationships with the BBC Philharmonic and the Hallé orchestras
- Outstanding extra-curricular activities including choirs, orchestra, rock bands, brass group, steel pan groups etc. 6th Form students also have the opportunity to lead these ensembles
- National and international concert tours
- Whole school musical theatre productions
- Regular performance opportunities in college and around Manchester
- Opportunities to perform/experience professional venues like The Bridgewater Hall, Band on the Wall, New Century Hall, Stoller Hall and the Palace Theatre
- Regular workshops and visits linked to the curriculum to aid study and personal interests

**Exam Board: EDEXCEL**

## PARRS WOOD SIXTH FORM COLLEGE

Wilmslow Road, East Didsbury  
Manchester, M20 5PG  
t: 0161 446 8648  
e: sixthform@pwhs.co.uk

[www.pwsfc.org.uk](http://www.pwsfc.org.uk)

 @parrswoodcollege