

Newlands Girls' School Music Department



NEWLANDS GIRLS' SCHOOL
COURAGE COMMITMENT COMPASSION

Practical music-making is the beating heart of our Music Department at Newlands. The department is constantly alive with sound and creativity, buzzing with energy at break, lunchtime, and after school as students fill the space with music.

Key Stage 3 Curriculum

The programme on offer to students in Years 7, 8 & 9 is varied and exciting, with the focus of lessons very much being on practical music-making. Students will find themselves challenged with performance, composition and listening tasks where they will explore a whole range of musical styles, genres and cultures. Students will have the opportunities to make the most of our incredibly well-resourced department including using pianos, guitars, drum kits, steel pans, our samba set, djembe drums and much more!

Instrumental and Vocal Tuition

We have over 170 pupils learning an instrument in school every week and this number continues to grow. We're incredibly proud of our team of instrumental teachers that support and nurture these students, encouraging them to practise and make the most of their lessons.

There are two pathways to learn an instrument, depending which instrument your child wants to learn.

- (1) Flute, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon, violin, viola, double bass, guitar, ukulele, bass, drum kit & percussion

Instrumental tuition for these instruments is delivered by our music HUB Berkshire Music Trust. To sign your child up for lessons at school, please head to berksmusictrust.org.uk. For further information or any queries, please email: admissions@berksmusictrust.org.uk

- (2) Voice, piano, oboe, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, tuba & cello

Instrumental tuition for these instruments is delivered by private tutors that visit school. To sign your child up for lessons, please use the email addresses below and include: your child's name, year group & whether they have any prior musical experience.

- Voice - Tara Chapman: sflhtch@gmail.com
- Piano - Kat Forster: katforster@icloud.com
- Oboe - Helen Turnbull: h.turnbull40@gmail.com
- Cello - Sally Whale: sewhale@yahoo.co.uk
- Trumpet, trombone, euphonium & tuba - Simon Davie: simon.davie@hotmail.co.uk

Should you have any further questions about instrumental or vocal lessons, please email music@newlandsgirls.co.uk.

Extra-curricular music

The department offers a large and varied free programme of extra-curricular music clubs available for all pupils to get involved in to further their musical experiences. Our wide variety of ensembles run every lunchtime and after school – including choirs, bands, clubs and smaller ensembles, which flourish here and are often led by senior students. These ensembles perform at our regular formal sell-out concerts throughout the year.

There are numerous performance opportunities at Newlands in addition to our concerts. The school puts on a Musical Production annually and runs a music tour every other year; last academic year, we took 100 students from across all year groups to Paris and we had over 150 students involved in our hugely successful performance of 'Little Shop of Horrors' in July 2025.