Clitheroe Royal Grammar Sixth Form: Transition Pack

Welcome to the Music Department

I look forward to meeting you and welcoming you to the Sixth Form.

This Transition Pack contains information to support your transition from GCSE to A Level study.

Please read all the documents ready to begin Year 12:

- Music Welcome Letter
- Music Questionnaire
- Music Introductory Tasks

✓ **Read the Subject Information Sheet** which is available here.

✓ **Download the exam board specification** which is available here and read the section called '*Qualification at a Glance*'.

✓ Some of these resources will become more useful when you have moved further through the course, such as the A Level specification, so store them where you can revisit them over the next 2 years.

✓ Don't worry if some of the work sounds challenging. A Level work is more difficult than GCSE work after all. Your teachers will be supporting you through this transition. Please talk to us if you are unsure about any aspect of the course.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Mr B Wheeler - Head of Learning (Music)

Welcome to the Music Department

Music Lessons at CRGS Sixth Form

Sixth formers can have a weekly instrumental or singing lessons if they wish. Lessons are not free but are cheaper than private lessons outside of a school setting. Lessons for A Level musicians who have previously received pupil premium funding are paid for by the school. We offer lessons on all common orchestral instruments as well as guitar, drums, voice and piano. Lessons can be 20 or 30 minutes and you are allowed to take lessons on multiple instruments.

Lessons take place during your frees to avoid clashes with your curricular studies, but please note that all music lessons take place in the main school building on Chatburn Road.

If you would like to commence instrumental or vocal lessons, please pick up a music lessons form from reception.

Extra-Curricular Music Activities at CRGS Sixth Form

The Music Department at CRGS is very active, with a range of extracurricular opportunities available to students. We have a wide variety of music ensembles which perform music from a range of styles. Ensembles perform regularly at school events as well as being invited to take part in many different public events.

Guitar Ensemble	Rehearses on Monday lunchtimes playing a wide variety of music.
CRGS Choir	This ensemble is open to all students in Years 7-13. Rehearsals take place on Wednesday lunchtimes, with occasional additional rehearsals.
Orchestra	The orchestra is open to all students. Rehearsals are on Thursday lunchtimes in Autumn term with occasional additional rehearsals.
Pop Band	All Welcome - Whether students have taken grade 8 or have only had one lesson so far, there is a tailored part. Equally, if students played an instrument in the past and would like an opportunity to play again then they are more than welcome. Band practice is on Tuesday lunchtime.
Woodwind Ensemble	Rehearse on Friday lunchtimes. Open to all woodwind players.

All our music ensembles are open to any students who sing or play. You do not have to be having instrumental or vocal lessons in Sixth Form in order to take part in the ensembles.
Details of activities and rehearsals are included in the weekly Guidance Bulletin and displayed on TV Screens around the Sixth Form.

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Music A Level
Introductory Task

Welcome to the Music Department!

Core Tasks:	**In order to prepare for the first few weeks of the course, I would like you to:**
	
	• **Read any book on classical music.** I'd recommend Alex Ross's *The Rest is Noise* as an introduction into some of the more unusual music you'll be studying or *The Story of Music* by Howard Goodall which is a broad strokes history of music.
	
	• **Listen to a selection of the set works.** There are 13 altogether. The full list can be found in the specification. All the tracks are on YouTube.
	
	• **Practise your instrument(s).** You will be giving a short recital in your first term. Rehearse at least one piece of music which shows you performing at your very best
	
	• **Revise the foundations of music theory.** The ABRSM Grade 5 theory book is a good place to start. In your first few weeks you'll need to be confident:
	  ○ Reading treble and bass clef, including ledger lines
	  ○ Naming the notes in common triads
	  ○ Remembering key signatures and keys
	  ○ Writing major and minor scales
	  ○ Reading and writing rhythms

Possible additional tasks:	Watch a performance of an opera, ballet or musical. If you can't find the real thing there are many recordings on YouTube.
Useful websites/resources if you want to do some further research:	YouTube IMSLP (Free classical sheet music library) Teoria (Free music theory lessons and resources)