



Welcome to Rainham Mark Grammar School and the Music Department.

This leaflet tells you about the large variety of extra-curricular activities offered by the Music Department. There are plenty of opportunities for all students to get involved in musical activities – from complete beginners to advanced musicians.

In class emphasis is placed on academic achievement and practical experience and progression. As students move up the school, they have the opportunity to take GCSE Music, A Level Music, and A Level Music Technology.

We hope to see you either as a performer or as an audience member at one of our many events throughout the year.

Musical Ensembles at RMGS

Monday

Vocal Chords - 12.50 – 1.25

- Run by Miss Smallwood
- For singers and keyboard players
- A focus on musical theatre
- All welcome

String Group - 12.50 – 1.25

- Run by Miss Kyle
- For string players with at least 1 year of experience

'Cello Ensemble - 3.30 – 4.30

- Run by Mrs Horton
- For 'cello players of at least Grade 1 standard

Tuesday

Junior Wind Band - 12.50 – 1.25

- Run by Mr Berreen
- Minimum experience of 1 year's playing required

Brass Group - 12.50 – 1.25

- Run by Miss Smallwood
- Minimum standard of Grade 2 required

Big Band - 3.30 – 4.30

- Run by Miss Smallwood
- Minimum standard of Grade 5 required
- For those who play standard Jazz Band instruments.
- The school's flagship musical ensemble

Wednesday

GCSE, A Level, and general theory surgery - 12.50 – 1.25 and 3.30 – 4.30

- Run by Miss Smallwood and Mr Holeyman
- For any students who want extra help with composition, theory, performance, or any other aspects of the course
- Recommended for GCSE and 'A' Level students but open to all

Guitar Club - 12.50 – 1.25

- Run by Mr Holeyman
- A minimum of 1 year's experience necessary

Thursday

Ukulele Club - 12.50 – 1.25

- Run by Mr Holeyman
- No experience required
- All welcome

Jam Club - 3.30 – 4.30

- Run by Mr Holeyman
- All welcome
- For anyone who would like to form their own group and rehearse using the school's equipment

Friday

Music Tech Club - 12.50 – 1.25

- Run by Mr Holeyman
- For anyone interested in creating their own recordings, electronic music, or musical scores
- All welcome

Other ensembles offered (according to demand):

- Recorder Ensemble
- Saxophone Choir
- Chamber Music groups
- Percussion Ensemble
- Musical Theatre Group
- Keyboard Club

Students have the opportunity to book practice rooms during break and lunchtime. Many students take this chance to do individual practice, and others rehearse class pieces or use the time for band practice.

The Music Department is never a quiet place!

Learning a musical instrument

This is a fantastic way to gain a new skill, work on an existing one, and just have fun!

Lessons are given by qualified, experienced professionals. Some of the instruments offered are: piano, drums, guitar (electric, acoustic, and bass), ukulele, flute, saxophone, clarinet, trumpet, trombone, euphonium, keyboard, violin, viola, 'cello, double bass, and singing (classical, pop, and musical theatre). This is not an exhaustive list, so please talk to Miss Smallwood if the instrument you want to play is not mentioned here.

Lessons can be given individually or in small groups (at the discretion of the instrumental teacher).

To apply for lessons collect a form from Music department staff at any time.

Do remember that regular, daily, practice is necessary to make progress.

Events

There are many performance opportunities throughout the year for all students. Students can perform as soloists, in a school ensemble, or in a group formed with other RMGS students. All year 7 pupils perform at the Christmas concert as a massed choir.

Month	Event
September	All school ensembles and instrumental lessons start Year 7 Class Concerts
December	Song Writing Competition winners announced Christmas Concert Carol Service Rock 'n' Roll show as part of charity week
March	Spring Soiree Concerts Medway Young Musician of the Year School Musical (every other year)
April	GCSE and 'A' level lunchtime recital series Medway Music Festival
June	Year 7 Music and Drama cross curricular project Year 8 Music Festival Year 10 Enterprise Concert Medway Secondary Achievement Concert
July	Year 9 Class Concerts Summer Review

The Tommy Emmanuel Recital Hall is also the venue for lunchtime concerts, Music Technology showcases, workshops and demonstrations. These events take place throughout the year.

The Music Department is a lively, friendly place. All students are encouraged to participate in musical activity and to try something new.

Come along and get involved!