



# CENTRAL FOUNDATION BOYS' SCHOOL

## Music Department Handbook

2023-2024

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## Key Information

Correct as of Nov '23. Please be aware that all dates are subject to change.

### Important Dates: Autumn Term 2023

- Thu 23 Nov – Y10 & Y11 LPO Concert Trip
- Fri 24 Nov – Founders Day
- w/s Mon 27 Nov & w/s Mon 4 Dec – Y11 Solo Recordings
- Wed 29 Nov – Y8 Music Assembly
- Thu 30 Nov – Y7 Music Assembly & 6<sup>th</sup> Form Open Evening
- Tue 5 Dec – MiSST Play Day
- Wed 6 Dec – Slaughter & May Performance [TBC]
- Mon 18 & Tue 19 Dec – Winter Concert Rehearsals
- Wed 20 Dec – Winter Concert

### Important Dates: Spring Term 2024

- w/s Mon 22 Jan – Y11 Ensemble Recordings
- Fri 2 Feb – Pro-Corda Auditions
- Mon 5 Feb – Y11 Coursework Submission
- Sun 17 Mar - Pro-Corda Final
- Wed 20 Mar – Y8 Music Assembly
- Thu 21 Mar – Y7 Music Assembly

### Important Dates: Summer Term 2024

- Mon 22 Apr – MiSST Concert (Roundhouse)
- Wed 10 – Thu 12 Jul – Gresham Residential
- Mon 22 Jul – Summer Concert Rehearsals
- Tue 23 Jul – Summer Concert

### Music School Timetable

#### Morning (8.00-8.45am)

Room	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
CA B/ CA 02	Studio Club [start date TBC]	Drum Ensemble [Mr Davies]	House Band [Mr Ellins]	Fret Wrx [Mr Ellins]	Choir [Mr Haylor & Ms Hammond]
Performing Arts Theatre		String Ensemble [Mr Sibley]	MiSST Orchestra [Mr Sibley, Ms Benavent & Mr Haylor]	Wind Orchestra [Mr Sibley]	String Ensemble [Mr Sibley]

#### After-School (3.30-4.30pm)

Room	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
CA B	Music Tech [start date TBC]			Jazz Band [Mr Ellins]	
Studio					

#### Music School Notes:

- Mr Haylor is on site from 7.45am every Tuesday-Friday to oversee Music School. Please use the school reception to contact him if required (Extension: Arts Office).
- It is sometimes necessary to reschedule or postpone Music School events. Given enough notice, this will be told to students directly at rehearsals. However, at short notice, this will be relayed via email.

## Introduction: Music at CFBS

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Central Foundation Boys' School's Music Department. Music is at the heart of the CFBS experience and our team is here to support all our students, regardless of their previous musical training. That's why our department motto is **musical excellence for everyone**.

To live up to this motto, we offer a detailed programme of musical activities both inside and outside the classroom, an overview of which can be seen below.

	<u>Level 1</u> Beginner - Grade 2	<u>Level 2</u> Grade 3-5	<u>Level 3</u> Grade 5+
<b>Teaching</b>	KS3 Classroom Music* Instrument Lessons Music Tech Club	GCSE Classroom Music Instrument Lessons Music Tech Club	A-Level Classroom Music Instrument Lessons Music Tech Club
<b>Music School</b>	CFBS Choir MiSST Orchestra Drum Club Guitar Band	Symphony Orchestra Jazz Band Fret Wrx Drum Club	String Ensemble Jazz Band House Band
<b>Further Opportunities</b>	Music Assemblies* MiSST Together Radley 1 Other events	MiSST Saturday School MiSST Voices Choir Radley 2	MiSST Saturday School MiSST Voices Choir Radley 2 Competitions

\*Compulsory for all students

Each of the different areas of provision are explained in more detail in the following pages. Please read on to find out further information about each of them.

If you have a question that is not answered in this handbook, please email me directly (haylora@cfbs.islington.sch.uk). You can also find details for all members of the music team on page 13.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Haylor, Director of Music. Central Foundation Boys' School

### **KS3 Music: Classroom Music & Music in Secondary Schools Trust Partnership**

From Years 7 to 9, your child will participate in classroom music lessons, delivered in partnership with the Music in Secondary Schools Trust (MiSST). MiSST help us to ensure that every student at CFBS has their own instrument. Each student will receive their instrument soon after arriving at the school and will keep them until the summer term of Y9.

The aim of this part of your child's musical education is to start at the beginning, without any expertise on their given instrument, and progress pupils up to a point where they have a good level of expertise – approximately Grade 2. If your child is interested in taking GCSE music, this means that they will have the skills to do so.

#### **Which instruments can my child learn?**

We currently offer tuition in violin or flute. We also have two smaller nurture groups that study viola and cello.

#### **How do you decide which instrument they will learn?**

All instruments are allocated by class.

#### **Can my child decide which instrument they wish to learn or change their mind?**

No, I'm afraid not. Whilst we would love to offer students a choice, all students in a class will learn the same instrument. Having said this, any students that already study violin, flute, viola or cello should study this instrument in class. If this applies to your child, please let me, your Head of Year or music teacher know as soon as possible.

#### **Do pupils really just learn one instrument for the whole time they are in music?**

Not at all. Throughout KS3, we will introduce students to singing, working on keyboard and music technology. If students are keen on exploring different areas of music, they should refer to our wide range of Music School ensembles, many of which are open to students of any ability level and all of which are free to take part in.

To explain a little further, there are schools that offer introductions to a wide range of different musical disciplines at KS3. For example, it is common for schools to do one half-term on blues, another on samba and another on protest songs. Whilst these different musical subjects are clearly both valuable and valid topics for music lessons, we set our sights on offering our pupils the deepest and most meaningful understanding of music we can manage. Students focus on their instrument as the medium through which they will explore a wide range of different musical studies and come out of this course with the accomplished ability to use their instrument.

## **KS3 Music: Your Instrument**

It is our great privilege to be able to offer a free instrument to every pupil at CFBS. This will usually be either a violin or a flute. Instruments will be handed out during the first half-term of the new academic year (usually just before October half-term) and will not be taken back until the end of year 9.

During the three years that students study their instrument in class they will be expected to:

- Be responsible for their instrument
- Bring their instrument to every lesson
- Take their instrument to practice at least three times a week

All our students stand the best chance of succeeding on their instrument if they are encouraged to practice regularly at home. Students will all be given the necessary equipment and resources to practice at home.

### **How can I best support my child in learning their instrument?**

Please support your child in committing to regular practice on their instrument. It is a common misconception that pupils need to practice their instruments for a long time. Just 15 minutes of practice three times a week will help your child progress enormously.

Everything that your child needs to practice on a week-to-week basis will be posted on Show My Homework. These will usually be in the form of easy to follow videos.

### **What happens if my child is finding it difficult to play their instrument?**

All students will find learning their instrument difficult at some point. This is a perfectly normal part of learning an instrument that all famous musicians the world-over have had to cope with!

For some students this might be right at the beginning. For example, it takes some students quite a long time to be able to produce a nice clear sound on the flute. Or it might be later, when the playing becomes more complicated.

Either way, this is an excellent opportunity for our students to learn how to apply themselves to something challenging. Any difficulties that students have will normally be fixed by practice. However, the music team is here to support both yourselves and your child. If they are repeatedly finding something to do with their instrument difficult, or if they are finding it stressful or annoying, please contact me and I can arrange extra support.

### **What happens if my child loses or breaks their instrument?**

Before receiving their instrument, you will need to sign an agreement with the school that you will support your child in caring for and looking after their instrument. Instruments that students lose, or damage will need to be paid for at the following costs:

- Flute – £93
- Violin – £71

### **What happens if my child is finding it difficult to bring their instrument to school?**

We appreciate that bringing instruments into school is not always convenient, but it is a compulsory part of our students' studies. Both the violin and flute have been chosen as instruments because they are light and relatively compact. All instruments that are handed out should have cases with handles and backpack straps. If this is not the case, please contact the music department and we will resolve this for your child.

### **Can my child leave their instrument at school?**

No, all instruments must be taken home so that students can practice and develop their instrumental skills. The school does not have anywhere on site where MiSST instruments can be safely stored.

### **What happens if my child doesn't bring their instrument to lessons?**

Once students have received instruments they will be given one warning per term. After this point they will receive a 30 minute detention for forgetting their instrument. They will, however, be given a spare instrument to use in their lesson.





## **Instrument Lessons**

We are very proud to have a highly skilled team of instrument teachers at CFBS. Our instrumental teaching team works with students on a one-to-one basis to develop their skills and help them progress at as fast a pace as possible.

Students that study with our instrumental teaching team can expect:

- An instrument, if they don't already have one.
- A single 25 mins (50 mins at GCSE and A-level) lesson with a highly qualified tutor.
- A half-termly report detailing their progress and suggestions for improvement.
- The opportunity to take part in official exams and attain grades.

In return for instrumental lessons, students must agree to:

- Practice their instrument regularly.
- Attend at least one 8am Music School ensemble every week.

### **Practice Pal App**

We are in the process of piloting the 'Practice Pal App' for CFBS students who are part of our Music Programme. This app will give you full details of which musical events your child should attend and will hopefully be able to offer even more facilities in the near future!

### **How much do instrumental lessons cost?**

Instrument lessons are provided to CFBS students free of charge as part of their music education at the school.

### **How do students get on to these lessons?**

As you can imagine, places on our instrumental teaching programme are both limited and very popular. As such, we have to have quite strict criteria for how we give access to the programme. Any student is free to sign-up to our waiting list for instrument lessons via the school website, however students will be awarded places based on the following criteria:

1. If they have studied the instrument before and to what level (e.g. Grade 2 etc)
2. If they are currently attending a Music School ensemble.
3. Their performance in classroom music.

For example, any students who join the school having already studied and achieved grades on the drums will be prioritised for lessons. After that, any students showing dedication to the school's drumming club will then be prioritised.

### **How long will we be on the waiting list for?**

I'm really sorry, but this is not known. We keep a constant review on our pupils and places can come around quite or quickly, or might take a while. It is our hope that we can always be transparent with parents about where their children are on the waiting list for lessons.

### **Can my child study more than one instrument?**

This is judged on a case-by-case basis. As a rule, we do not recommend students study more than one instrument. Balancing the required practice of one instrument with homework and other duties is already quite challenging. Studying two instruments represents a very high commitment to regular practise across two different instruments.

### **What happens if my child doesn't attend their music lessons?**

Students will be given one warning per term. You will receive a message about their attendance. If it happens again students may be removed for their lessons.

Students that show a consistent lack of effort in practising their instrument may also be removed from lessons.



## Music School

The CFBS Music School is the provision of extra-curricular music activities for our pupils. These take place both before and after school on all weekday and you can find the full timetable below. Clubs highlighted green are open to all. Clubs highlighted peach require a pre-existing set of musical skills. Please see below for full details.

### Morning (8.00-8.45am)

Room	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
CA B/CA 02	Studio Club [start date TBC]	Drum Ensemble [Mr Davies]	House Band [Mr Ellins]	Fret Wrx [Mr Ellins]	Choir [Mr Haylor & Ms Hammond]  Guitar Band [Mr Ellins]
Performing Arts Theatre		Chamber Ensemble [Mr Sibley]	MiSST Orchestra [Mr Sibley, Ms Benavent & Mr Haylor]	Wind Orchestra [Mr Sibley]	Strings Ensemble [Mr Sibley]

### After-School (3.30-4.30pm)

Room	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
CA B	Music Tech [start date TBC]			Jazz Band [Mr Ellins]	
Studio					

Please do just contact us if you are unsure which musical activity is best for your child.

We are delighted to be able to offer all CFBS Music School activities free of charge. However, please be aware that students taking part in these activities must:

- Turn up to Music School activities on time, ready to participate.
- Be available for both Winter & Summer Concerts.
- Be ready to take part in further performance opportunities, as they arise.

## Progression Routes in Music

The CFBS Music School exists to support our pupils at all stages of their musical journey. As such, it is expected that pupils will progress through different ensembles as their playing becomes more technically accomplished.

An outline of all the progression routes available to pupils is given below.

Route	Level 1 - Beginner		Level 2 – G2-5	Level 3 – G5+	Further
<b>Classical</b>	Classroom Music	MiSST Orchestra	Symphony Orchestra	String Ensemble	Competitions
<b>Voice</b>	Choir	One-to-One Lessons	Guitar Band or Fret Wrx Vocalist	House Band or Jazz Band Vocalist	Battle of the Bands & other events
<b>Guitar</b>	Guitar Band	One-to-One Lessons	Fret Wrx	House Band	
<b>Piano</b>	One-to-One Lessons		Guitar Band or Fret Wrx Pianist	House Band or Jazz Band Pianist	
<b>Brass</b>	One-to-One Lessons	MiSST Orchestra	Symphony Orchestra	Jazz Band & House Band Horn Section	
<b>Music Tech</b>	Music Tech Club		Studio Club	Sound Team	TBC

Decisions will be made about whether students can move into different ensembles at the end of every term. These progression routes are not compulsory and students are welcome to play in any ensemble they have joined for as long as they wish. Having said this, we strongly suggest that following a progression route is a great way for students to continue developing their playing and getting a satisfying challenge from their music making.



## Accommodation and Resources

We opened our brand new music department in September, which houses:

- The Performing Arts Theatre
- CA 01/CA 02 – Teaching Classrooms
- CA 03 – Music Tech Suite (opening date - TBC)
- CA C – Recording Studio (opening date - TBC)
- CA B – Ensemble Room
- CA D-I – Practice Rooms

## The CFBS Music Team

Staff	Role	Email Address
Mr Haylor	Director of Music	e. haylora@cfbs.islington.sch.uk
Mr McDonnell	Teacher of Music	e. mcdonnells@cfbs.islington.sch.uk
Mr Sibley	Head of Strings	e. sibleyc@cfbs.islington.sch.uk
Mr Maguire	Brass Teacher	Contact via Practice Pal
Ms Hammond	Vocal Teacher	Contact via Practice Pal
Ms Thoma	Piano Teacher	Contact via Practice Pal
Ms Osuchowska	Piano Teacher	Contact via Practice Pal
Mr Davies	Drums Teacher	Contact via Practice Pal
Mr Ellins	Guitar Teacher	Contact via Practice Pal
Mr Ellenberger	Woodwind Teacher	Contact via Practice Pal
Ms Sweeney	MiSST Tutor	Contact via Practice Pal
Mr Spannocchi	MiSST Tutor	Contact via Practice Pal

## Appendix A: KS4 Music - GCSE

We offer students a chance to take the EDUQAS GCSE Music qualification.

Please be aware that if choosing GCSE music, in addition to their weekly lessons, students will also need to:

- Have a weekly one-to-one lesson on their instrument.
- Attend one Music School club a week.

This is how they will study for their solo and ensemble performances.

### How are GCSE Grades awarded?

Appraisal (40%)	Performing (30%)	Composition (30%)
Appraising Exam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1hr 15min Long</li> <li>• 8 Questions</li> <li>• Inc. essay question and notation</li> </ul>	Two (or more) pieces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solo and Ensemble</li> <li>• Total of 4-6mins</li> <li>• Grade 3 or above</li> <li>• One piece must be linked to your studies</li> </ul>	Two pieces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free and to brief</li> <li>• Total of 3-6mins</li> <li>• Recording of each</li> <li>• Log of process for each</li> <li>• Score or written description of each</li> </ul>
Marked by Examiner	Marked by Teacher	Marked by Teacher

### What will GCSE Students Study?

AoS 1 Musical Forms and Devices	AoS 2 Music for Ensemble	AoS 3 Film Music	AoS 4 Popular Music
Badinerie, JS Bach (Orchestral Suite No.2 in B minor)  Music Theory	Texture  Jazz & Blues  Musical Theatre  Chamber Music	Elements of Music  Leitmotif and use of themes	Africa, Toto  Pop, rock & fusion  Forms and Styles



Baroque, Classical & Romantic Periods of Music History			
Q1 (Bach) & Q2	Q3 & Q4	Q5 & Q6	Q7 (Toto) & Q8

### Can my son study GCSE music?

Yes, as long as they have progressed well at KS3. Students who have progressed well at KS3 (or who already have musical expertise) will be able to meet the demands of the course.



## Appendix B: KS5 Music: A-level

We offer students a chance to take the EDUQAS A-Level Music qualification.

Please be aware that if choosing A-Level music, in addition to their weekly lessons, students will also need to:

- Have a weekly one-to-one lesson on their instrument.
- Attend one Music School club a week.
- Give a short solo recital at least once in the year in a whole year group assembly.

This is how they will study for their solo and ensemble performances.

### How are A-Level Grades awarded?

Appraisal (40%)	Performing (35/25%)	Composition (35/25%)
Appraising Exam <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2hrs 15min Long</li> <li>• 8 Questions</li> <li>• Includes one essay question and notation</li> </ul>	Three/Two (or more) pieces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solo and Ensemble</li> <li>• Total of 10-12 OR 6-8mins</li> <li>• Grade 6 or above</li> <li>• Two/One piece must be linked to your studies</li> </ul>	Three/Two pieces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One must be set to brief</li> <li>• Two/One must be linked to your studies</li> <li>• Total of 8-10 OR 4-6mins</li> <li>• Recording of each</li> <li>• Log of process for each</li> <li>• Score or written description of each</li> </ul>
Marked by Examiner	Marked by Examiner	Marked by Teacher



### What will A-Level Students Study?

<b>AoS A: The Western Classical Tradition</b>
This area of study focuses on the development of the symphony through the Classical and Romantic eras. The symphony, as it developed, was considered to be the most important instrumental genre of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and contains some of the most exciting orchestral repertoire of the period. The development of the symphony went hand in hand with the development of the orchestra into a grand and powerful force. Equally grand forms and structures were needed to allow the instruments to demonstrate their full potential and through this we see the emergence of sonata form.
Questions on the Paper - Q11, Q12, Q13 & Q14
Plus two/one of your performances and compositions

<b>AoS D: Jazz (OR Musical Theatre)</b>
This area of study focuses on prominent genres from the world of Jazz between 1920 and 1960. Jazz is universally recognised as one of America's most original art forms, an unquestionable musical phenomenon that originated in African/American communities in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Initially, Jazz emerged as a fusion of African and European music, with Ragtime and Blues being the important precursors of the style. The vitality of the music reflected the significant social and cultural changes taking place in American society during this time, ultimately capturing the imagination of a worldwide audience. During the 'Roaring Twenties' musicians such as Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington and Count Basie travelled the country spreading their new sounds. From there, the phenomenon grew and many distinctive and diverse styles were to emerge. Amongst others, Swing Big Bands became popular in the 1930s, and the 1940s witnessed the more challenging Be-bop style, and then Cool Jazz emerged towards the end of the 1950s.
Question on the paper - Q3 & Q4
Plus two/one of your performances and compositions

**AoS E: Into the Twentieth Century**

This area of study focuses on the distinct musical styles of the early twentieth century, which was a time of change and experimentation in music. Both the symphony and the orchestra had reached considerable proportions by the end of the nineteenth century and many composers such as Debussy, Ravel, Schoenberg and Stravinsky were starting to look for new ways to create music, often preferring clarity and sparseness of timbre and texture over late Romantic indulgence. This resulted in the emergence of several diverse schools of composition during the period, including Impressionism, Expressionism and Neo-classicism.

Q7 & Q8

Plus **two/one** of your performances and compositions

**Who can study A-Level music?**

To study A-level music students must **be at least of a Grade 5** standard on their main instrument. They must also have studied a GCSE music course (not necessarily EDQUAS).

If students are taking part in regular musical activities outside of school, this is a good indicator that A-level might be for them. Students not taking part in regular extra-curricular music may struggle with the course.