



# Independent Study in Music

Independent study is a vital part of learning the skills of Music and developing them beyond the classroom. The 'Learning to Fly' document gives guidance on the kinds of habits and practices we ask you to develop in Music and we consider these to be the most important element of your routine of independent learning. Your teachers will also give you regular pieces of directed homework to develop your skills and understanding.

**At Key Stage 3** we expect you to spend 10 minutes a week reviewing your learning and developing your Music skills independently. This might often involve selecting a piece from the wider listening pieces related to each topic we study. We would also expect many students to want to practise their practical assessment pieces prior to their end of term assessments.

**At Key Stage 4** we expect you to spend 15 minutes a week reviewing your learning and developing your Music skills independently. We will also set a **45 minute** homework task every **week**. In addition, we would expect students to be completing instrumental practise set by their teachers.

**In Year 12** we expect you to spend **2 ½ hours** a week working independently, reviewing your work through wider critical reading, listening and performing. We will also set **2 ½ hours** of directed homework a week.

**In Year 13** we expect you to spend **four hours** a week independently reviewing your learning and developing your understanding of the subject through wider critical reading, listening and performing. We will also set **two hours** a week of directed tasks.

- We will always give you at least three days to complete a piece of homework.
- We will always give you homework which is **purposeful** and which will have an impact on your learning and skills development.
- We will give you clear guidance about **how** to complete the homework when it is set.
- We will acknowledge the work you put in and do all we can to give you useful written or verbal feedback in good time.

In return, we expect you to:

- Complete homework at a time and place when you can focus quietly on it.
- Spend the whole of the prescribed time focusing on the task.
- Ask your teacher for help in advance of the due date if you are unsure how to complete the task or if you want advice and guidance.
- Be ambitious in every piece of work, challenging yourself to be the best you can be.
- Always spend a few minutes planning and checking your work.
- Don't worry about making mistakes - they are the best way to learn.
- Be proud of your work and prepared to share it with your teachers and other students. □  
Read and act on the feedback you are given.