

Music

At the heart of Birkdale School



Birkdale School has an enviable reputation in the City of Sheffield for outstanding music making and instrumental performance. Choirs, Big Band, Jazz & Saxophone Ensembles, String Orchestras & Guitar Groups – to name but a few of the many ensembles at Prep and Senior school – are led by our first-rate music faculty.





Top Quality Teaching & Guidance

Individual expert lessons and a dedicated concert programme throughout the academic year help our young performers gain the necessary experience needed to progress in their music making studies.

Our Record of Success

Birkdale School is proud of our young musicians and their record of achievement. Over the years pupils have taken up places as Oxbridge Choral Scholars, achieved scholarships to London and Northern Colleges of Music, and been rewarded with Grade VIII Associated Board exams at distinction level and performance diplomas. Many of our old Birkdalian have chosen to follow a professional career in music.

Sixth Form and 11+ Music Scholarships

Music scholarships are available for outstanding young musicians entering the first year of the Senior School and thereafter on entry into the Sixth Form. Further details of these scholarships may be obtained from our Registrar.

Full Range of Varied Bands and Ensembles

Birkdale Big Band – Big Band is a renowned part of music making here and is formed from our most advanced Senior School players. It performs at numerous high profile concerts throughout the academic year.

Varied Guitar Ensembles – The guitar is a hugely popular instrument at Birkdale with over seventy pupils learning at both the Prep and Senior School. A wide range of rock & pop, classical and folk combinations rehearse throughout the week in differing formats.

String Orchestra and String Fellows – A large number of pupils learn stringed instruments. At the Prep School young players are encouraged to join the String Fellows group. The Senior School Orchestra meets weekly after school.

Choirs – Birkdale has a strong and varied tradition of choir groups across all age ranges. At the Prep School there is both a Pre-Prep as well as a Prep choir and at the Senior School there are junior, senior and a girls' choir. Birkdale is also very pleased to co-operate with Sheffield Girls High School with our joint Sixth Form choir and have enjoyed annual trips to Germany and France over many years now.

Brass Bands – Our highly accomplished brass teachers lead respective brass ensembles in the Prep and Senior school. Brass playing and performance continues to be a very strong part of music making here at Birkdale.

Octopus – Together with classical repertoire, jazz study and performance forms a strong part of our instrumental performing curriculum. Octopus focuses on well-known jazz standards predominantly from the Dixieland and Bebop traditions. This outstanding group performs frequently at fund-raising and other wider community events throughout the year.



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For more details please visit our website

www.birkdaleschool.org.uk

