

## An introduction to the Performing Arts Department

Welcome to Westborough and this exciting time in the Performing Arts Department's journey. We are a successful team with a passionate commitment to making a difference to children's lives and ensuring that all students have the highest possible learning experience whilst studying drama and music at Westborough. At the core of our success, we have highly effective, talented practitioners who inspire our students to be their very best. We are also very fortunate to work in a separate performing arts block with fantastic facilities (2 drama studios, 2 music rooms, an ICT suite and a range of practice rooms).

A key feature of the department's work and ethos is its commitment to constant improvement; staff enthusiastically contribute and receive ideas about how to improve our teaching and our students' learning. Students make good progress in the Performing Arts which is a testament to the department's vision and drive for excellence.

In addition to student achievement, the ability to promote an enjoyable stimulating learning environment to develop an appreciation of the subject, is a key strength of the department. Not only as a team do we devise schemes of work to provide high quality learning, but we devise lesson plans and sequences of activities which enhance both enrichment and creativity. Lessons within Performing Arts are interesting, stimulating and enthuse our students to exceed all expectations.

There is a strong ethic of collaborative working within the department, we pride ourselves not only on our clear and shared values and expectations, but also on good relationships between staff and students. We are an experienced, highly committed team, a team which supports each other through a range of strategies. Some of these include: mentoring, collaborative planning, departmental inset, sharing of good practice at meetings, team teaching, paired observations, internal standardising. Thus, new members instantly feel like they belong as they are greeted with a friendly, supportive environment which also encourages them to take on new challenging opportunities.

We look forward to welcoming you to our team.