



# Music Department Members of Staff:

**Dominic Turner, BMus Hons, PGCE**  
- Head of Department.

**Amy Smith, BMus Hons, PGCE**  
-Teacher of Music

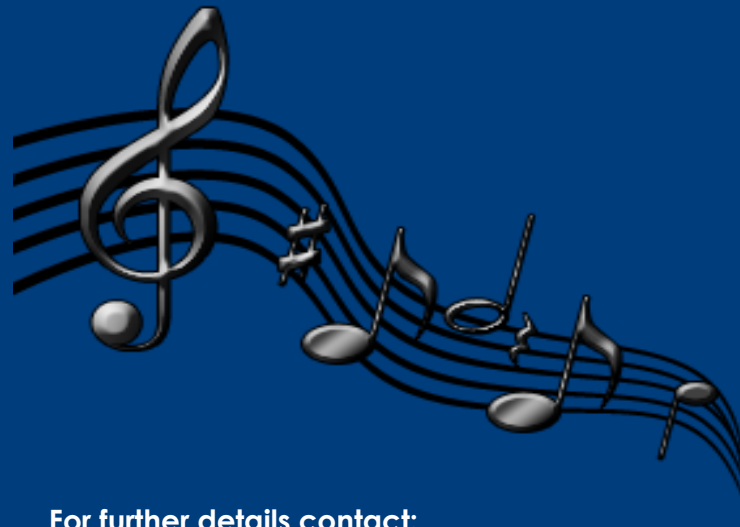
The Music Department is a busy and vibrant place to be for both staff and students. We currently do 6 concerts a year both in and out of school which involves students across the age range at the academy. Students are active in the music lessons and are taught a diverse curriculum at KS3. The department is enjoying the uptake of music both at KS4 and 5 and is also flourishing with the students who are currently having music instrumental lessons.

We have a diverse extra-curricular programme that is tailored to students needs and interests across a range of musical styles from DJ skills, Choir, Rock School and School Band.

Highlights include:

- ◆ Winners of the 2010 Enterprise Rock Festival.
- ◆ Performing in the company of HRH Prince William.
- ◆ Rave reviews at the Christmas and Summer Music Concerts.
- ◆ Trip to the O2 Arena Rock Assembly.

Future Projects will include a trip to see a live Symphony Orchestra and a possible trip overseas in 2012 to perform.



**For further details contact:**

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Creative Arts Faculty  
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BB3 3HD

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## Creative Arts Faculty



### Current Course Offerings:

**BTEC Music Extended Certificate  
Level 2**

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**BTEC Music Subsidiary Diploma**

If you would like to find out more about securing a place in Year 7, please visit [www.daca.co.uk](http://www.daca.co.uk) or call **01254 819500** for further details.

Darwen Aldridge Community Academy,  
Sudell Road, Darwen, BB3 3HD



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## Curriculum

The Key Stage 3 curriculum consists of a carousel system, whereby students rotate through Creative and Performing Arts. Our year 7 and 8 students have the opportunity to enjoy and discover music from all around the world. Our year 7 topics include; Elements of Music, Notation and Keyboard Skills, Cops and Robbers, West African Musical Cycles, and Gamelan. In year 8 pupils get to explore musical topics further which include; The Blues, Chords, Song Writing, Samba, Spiritual Roots and Rap Music.

At Key Stage 4 the pupils have the opportunity to gain a BTEC Level 2 Extended Certificate– this is a two year course which allows us to tailor the music course to the individuals interests and suitability. The course is delivered through set units and is supported through submitted coursework.

At Key Stage 5 we offer a BTEC Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma in Performing. Again, this is a practical based course which allows us to personalise the course for the individual working within assigned units. Students have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument during school hours which is supported by peripatetic staff that work within the music department.

## Awarding Body



## Assessment

We implement a robust assessment that reflects the new National Curriculum. This ensures that tasks are in place for Years 7 and Years 8 that enable smooth trans phase continuity into successful studies at Key Stage 4. Pupils at the end of each unit are given an integrated assessment which includes listening, composing and performing.

At Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5, students work in line with assessment objectives defined by the exam board. Both the BTEC courses are 100% coursework based, and test pupils skills and abilities within the music industry.



Our current students' performance is excellent and the department is continuously aiming to be outstanding. The last three years of examination results have been excellent. In 2010 the music department achieved **100% A\*-C**.

Students have had great results in ABRSM exams and the uptake of students learning a musical instrument has grown dramatically.



## Facilities

Our classrooms boast state-of-the-art facilities. We have two music teaching rooms, 3 music practice rooms, a large instrumental storage room, and a state-of-the-art recording studio. Furthermore, our department is equipped with:

- interactive whiteboards;
- Mac computers
- touch sensitive Yamaha keyboards
- a range of classical and electric guitars as well as a range of other instruments.
- drum kits, Djembe and Samba Kit
- 2 DJ deck turntables.

Our pupils have the opportunity to work with the latest IT music software such as: Garage Band, **Cubase and Sibelius**.

## Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities include:

- ◇ Instrumental Music Lessons.
- ◇ Samba band
- ◇ Djembe African Ensemble
- ◇ Choir
- ◇ School Band
- ◇ Guitar Ensemble
- ◇ Rock School



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