



2026

SELBORNE COLLEGE

SUBJECT MUSIC

HEAD OF MUSIC: MR W PAXTON

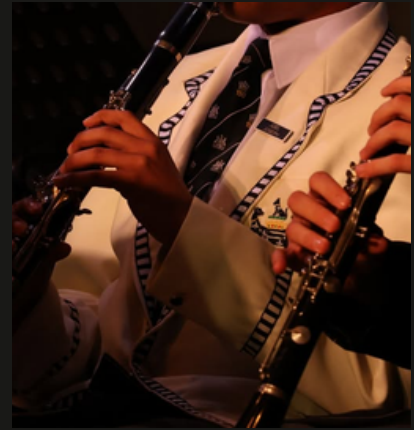


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SELBORNE COLLEGE

SUBJECT MUSIC MORE THAN A SUBJECT



At Selborne College, Subject Music is grounded in instilling a passion and appreciation for music across genres and time periods. It encourages personal development alongside the love for music. The subject equips learners with a greater understanding of the origins of music, as well as the development of music as a whole, placing the learners at the forefront of music in the modern world. This matters because at Selborne College we aim to promote development – intellectually, emotionally, and socially. Through music, boys learn discipline, perseverance, and the value of consistent effort, while also gaining confidence through performance. Subject Music strengthens academic skills such as concentration, memory, and problem-solving, and provides an important outlet for creativity and self-expression within an all-boys environment. The subject fosters teamwork, and a sense of belonging, connecting boys across grades and backgrounds through shared musical experiences.

THE SELBORNE APPROACH

Our Subject Music teaching philosophy is built on the belief that every boy can grow musically through structured guidance, active participation, and consistent effort. Our teaching emphasises active music-making, combining practical performance with a strong foundation in musical understanding, literacy, and listening skills. Through the learning of theory and history, along with the practical component, learners are encouraged to take ownership of their progress through structured practice, goal-setting, and regular performance opportunities that build confidence and resilience. We aim not only to teach learners to play or sing, but to understand, interpret, and think creatively about music within its historical and cultural context. In doing so, Subject Music contributes to the formation of disciplined, expressive, and well-rounded young men, equipping them with skills and confidence that extend far beyond the music classroom.





EXCELLENCE IN ACTION

Subject Music at Selborne has a stellar track record of a consistent 100% pass rate, at times with learners achieving distinctions. Many former learners have gone on to study music, completing degrees in music, landing them in various professional music-related fields. Several past learners have gone on to become successful performers, sound engineers and even teachers of music – with some returning to take up roles as educators at the College.

The subject also aims to make sure that learners are equipped with the practical and theoretical know-how, while covering all areas of the subject in order to best equip learners for their continuous assessments.

BEYOND THE AUDITORIUM

Learners are provided with inter-school engagement opportunities through the Eisteddfod. Subject Music also promotes the development of leadership qualities, with learners having to show initiative and commitment to the subject.





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THE SELBORNE MAN

At Selborne College, we are not merely preparing boys to pass examinations, win fixtures, or collect accolades. We are forming young men.

A Selborne man is:

- **Intellectually Disciplined**
He thinks carefully. He questions respectfully. He pursues understanding rather than surface familiarity. He is not afraid of rigour.
- **Morally Grounded**
He understands responsibility. He acts with integrity when no one is watching. He knows that character is revealed in pressure.
- **Courageous in Effort**
He does not withdraw from difficulty. Whether in the classroom, on the field, or on the stage, he learns to persist.
- **Articulate and Thoughtful**
He can express his ideas clearly. He listens as well as he speaks. He engages the world with curiosity rather than cynicism.
- **Committed to Brotherhood**
He understands that strength is built in community. He supports others. He leads by example.
- **Prepared for the Future**
He leaves Selborne adaptable, capable, and ready to contribute meaningfully to society. Every subject, every sport, every society exists to shape these qualities.

That is the Selborne standard.

