

We have five well-established choirs: Year 7 Singers, Year 8 Singers, Senior Choir, GCSE Choir, and the Merici Singers in the Sixth Form. There are two orchestra rehearsals designed to support instrumentalists at all levels: junior orchestra (up to grade 3) and senior orchestra (grade 4+). Every year we find that more talented singers and instrumentalists join us in Year 7. We additionally support students with music auditions and applications within the borough and beyond, with current students taking part in West End productions, members of the National Children's Orchestra, London Youth Choir, National Youth Choir, and London Music College Junior Departments.

There are many performance opportunities throughout the year, the biggest of which are our annual School Productions, our joint Carol Service with Wimbledon College and our St. Cecilia Concert.

Department Results, 2025-2026

Key Stage 3 – Music

	Year 7 At or above expected target	Year 8 At or above expected target	Year 9 At or above expected target
Ursuline	97%	97%	92%

Key Stage 4 – GCSE Music

	9 - 7	9 - 5	9 - 4
Music GCSE	56%	88%	100%

URSULINE HIGH SCHOOL

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Open Evening 2026



MUSIC

Head of Department

Mr Ching

About the Department

Music is based in the St Angela's Art Centre. There are two main Music classrooms and five music practice rooms.

There is an extensive co-curricular program which many students take part in, and our instrumental and vocal ensembles perform regularly in school, the local community, central London venues and abroad. We have an annual Music Tour to a European destination. Recent trips include Belgium, Germany, and Austria. We are constantly reviewing our curricular and co-curricular offers, based on the students' requests, such as starting an Open-Mic Club!

Our Aims at Ursuline High School

- To give all students the opportunity to take part in musical activities.
- To provide a balanced, varied, and challenging musical curriculum at KS3, KS4 and KS5.
- To give students the opportunity to develop their performing skills through participation in additional instrumental and/or singing lessons.
- To provide enriching cultural experiences for all students.
- To teach the students about the importance of Music in Worship.
- To achieve outstanding examination results at KS4, KS5 and in instrumental/singing examinations.

Teaching and Learning

All KS3 students have weekly music class lessons. Students learn about music from a range of diverse cultures, genres and traditions including European Popular styles, Classical Music, West African Music, Northern Indian Classical Music and Samba.



Students from different ethnic backgrounds are encouraged to explore their own musical cultures and share this with others. GCSE music is well-established, and it is a popular option with a higher than national average uptake.

A-Level Music is taught as part of our joint Sixth Form with Wimbledon College.

Resources

- 32 electronic keyboards, 2 grand pianos, 4 upright pianos, 4 electronic pianos, 2 drum kits,
- Selection of tuned and untuned classroom percussion.



- Samba Drums and Djembes.
- 32 Ukuleles.
- The use of IT plays an important role in teaching and learning in Music. At KS3 students use their tablets in lessons rather than exercise books to complete 'written' and 'listening exercises'. Work is submitted to the teacher on MS Teams/OneNote/MS Quiz.

- Students use the internet to complete research and computers to record and evaluate their performances and compositions.
- Students use MuseScore software to compose on their laptops and BandLab software at KS3.

Extra-Curricular Provision

Instrumental and vocal tuition is delivered by privately qualified instrumental/vocal tutors and peripatetic teachers from Merton Music Foundation (MMF). All students can apply for these lessons, and they are delivered on a rotation during the school day. The school has purchased several of the larger orchestral instruments which it will lend for a year, free of charge, to Year 7 students who wish to try one of the more unusual instruments. Students can participate in performances such as the St Cecilia's Concert (above), which is a wonderful experience and display of their talents.