



MUSIC
Reading List





Sixth Form

In order to study music at A level or IB you will need to get used to the idea of thinking about music, that is, you need to take seriously the idea of music as a subject of intellectual enquiry, as well as being something you 'do' or 'make'. Among other things, this means becoming familiar with musical repertoires outside of those related to your principal instrument. Getting to know as much music as possible should be one of your primary concerns, both before, during (and after!) your time at Taunton School; none of us knows enough music. One of the easiest and most inexpensive ways to do this is to listen to the radio – Radio 3, Classic FM or any number of internet radio stations - or download a streaming music service.

Books that will inspire, inform and guide you:

This is Your Brain on Music – Daniel Levitin

The Story of Music - Howard Goodall

Writing about Music workbook – Alistair Wightman

How Music Works – David Byrne

Music: A Very Short Introduction – Nicholas Cook

World Music: A Very Short Introduction – Philip Bohlman

The Rest is Noise – Alex Ross

The Joy of Music and The Unanswered Question – Leonard Bernstein – available as transcripts but also on YouTube as lectures.

In addition to this, lots of orchestras have online resources and concerts which are well worth looking at – LSO; RPO; Berlin Phil etc are all excellent.

Audio-Visual

www.teoria.com – aural notation exercises, harmony and theory