



BIENS SANA IN CORPORE SANO

WESTHOLME

PREP | SENIORS | SIXTH FORM

PERFORMING ARTS AT WESTHOLME

PREP & SENIORS

LAMDA & PERIPATETIC MUSIC LESSONS



INTRODUCTION

Confidence, Collaboration and Communication

At the heart of Westholme is our professional theatre, providing an amazing, real-life West End experience for all students to develop their confidence and essential communication skills. Equipped with state-of-the-art stage lighting and incredible sound, students regularly have the opportunity to study all aspects of theatre: perform; learn technical skills; stage manage; design sets and make costumes. The Croston Theatre is breath-taking and our students are fortunate to utilise it every day.

Our Music Department, equipped with a new recording studio, enables students to study Music Technology up to A Level. Our stunning ensembles include our impressive swing band, orchestra and multiple choirs alongside a variety of smaller ensembles, bespoke to individual talents. We also partner with the National Youth Orchestra, National Youth Theatre, industry leading musicians and vocalists and performers in London's West End.

Inside this booklet you will find information on the Peripatetic Music and LAMDA teachers that will be available to you at Westholme. You will also be able to register for your Music and LAMDA lessons, which you will be able to do so by scanning the QR code towards the end of this booklet.

MEET THE STAFF



Mrs A Holland
Director of Performing Arts



Mr B Holt
Director of Music



Miss C Roberts
Head of Drama

MR D MOORE (BRASS)

Mr. Moore enjoys a dynamic and diverse career as a freelance trumpet player and brass teacher.

In addition to teaching at Westholme, he is also involved with the junior RNCM and Stockport Grammar School.

As a trumpet player, Mr. Moore has performed with renowned orchestras such as the Hallé Orchestra, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, and Opera North. He has also been part of touring West End shows, including “Les Misérables,” “Miss Saigon,” and “Mary Poppins.” Previously, Dave held positions with the Brighthouse and Rastrick Brass Band, as well as the Grimethorpe Colliery Band.



MISS E STEVENS (LOWER STRINGS)

Miss Stevens is a versatile musician who trained at Junior Academy of Music, Nottingham University, before doing her MMus at Trinity Laban.

She has over 15 years experience in teaching and also enjoys a freelance career, playing a variety of genres, including having recently finished a year long UK tour of the show The King and I. Miss Stevens aims to provide an encouraging environment for children to learn the cello, and adapts and adjusts the goals for individuals based on what they want out of their musical journey.



MR J HOYLE (UPPER STRINGS)

Growing up as part of a musical family in Burnley, Mr Hoyle started playing the violin aged 5. After being awarded a scholarship to study at Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, he has enjoyed a varied and diverse performing career, spanning the classical, musical theatre and pop/rock genres.

This has taken him across the UK and Europe performing in many world class venues and arenas, such as the Royal Albert Hall, Royal Opera House, Symphony Hall, Bridgewater Hall and Abbey Road Studios.

As well as performing, Mr Hoyle enjoys devoting much of his time to teaching across the North West and also tutoring the violins at his former youth orchestra, Lancashire Youth Symphony Orchestra.



MRS K PARKINSON (SINGING)

Mrs Parkinson is a music and performing arts graduate of Huddersfield University. She has been involved in many shows and productions around Greater Manchester. She was Head of Voice at Blackburn with Darwen Music Services, teaching nursery through to A-Level students, before starting teaching at Westholme Senior School 8 years ago.

Mrs Parkinson is also Executive Principal of Stagecoach Performing Arts in Chorley, Preston and Oldham, where she leads a team of 25 staff teaching acting, singing and dancing to over 700 students. She regularly takes students to perform on the West End stage! She loves teaching all vocal styles to her students; her favourite is musical theatre and cheesy pop!!! As she trained classically too, she loves showing students the classical techniques, but with modern songs! Mrs Parkinson believes singing lessons are a great way to boost students' self esteem and confidence, which can help them in all aspects of life in the future.



MRS L THREADGOLD (CLARINET & SAXOPHONE)

Mrs Threadgold has many years of teaching experience; past pupils have achieved grade 8 distinction, diplomas and gained places at conservatoires. She studied clarinet with Ann Walker and Lindsay Marsh and saxophone with Rachel White. She has the sought after CTABRSM qualification, which led to opportunities to work with saxophonist Richard Ingham and educationalist Paul Harris.

Mrs Threadgold is principal clarinettist with Bolton Symphony Orchestra and Lancashire Chamber Orchestra. She plays principal clarinet for the Preston Opera Orchestra and can often be seen playing clarinet and saxophone in the orchestra pit at shows around the North West.

As a player at BSO, she has worked with top soloists including Peter Donohoe, Peter Dixon, John Bradbury, Neil Smith and David Greed. Highlights with the orchestra have been recording Richard Strauss's Ein Heldenleben in the BBC Philharmonic's new studio at Media City and performing with Peter Donohoe at the Bridgewater Hall.

As a soloist, Mrs Threadgold has played concertos with orchestras across the North West, including the Mozart and Weber concertos many times, works by Strauss, Debussy, Baermann, and a new work by Hodgson.

Mrs Threadgold loves playing chamber music and has a busy schedule of performances with piano, harp, string quartet and wind quintet.



MRS S EAMES (SINGING)

Mrs Eames has had the privilege of teaching students from Westholme for over 20 years. She aims to build each child their personal vocal 'toolbox', filled with techniques which they can use to learn and interpret songs in whatever style they choose. She teaches a wide variety of vocal genres, mainly focusing on Musical Theatre, LAMDA Musical Theatre and Classical.

Mrs Eames graduated from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in 2001, and outside of the classroom enjoys running singing workshops and masterclasses. She frequently is called upon to adjudicate at singing competitions.

Mrs Eames regularly researches new teaching and training methods to provide a variety of approaches, as each student's voice is so unique. She is an accredited teacher for the 'Vocal Process' and has also completed the 'Estill Voice Training' courses. Helping all students nurture and develop their voice (including its anatomy) is important to developing their individual sounds.



Website: www.susaneames.co.uk.



MRS C LEWIS (PIANO)

Mrs Lewis has been teaching at Westholme School in the Music and History departments for over 30 years. In these years she has also taught piano, clarinet and saxophone.

Currently she is the school's piano tutor. Mrs Lewis studied at the Royal Northern College of Music and Cardiff University, graduating with a BA in History and Music.

In her years at Westholme School she has worked with the finest music and drama teachers to produce magnificent performances that linger long in the memory!

MRS J TINNISWOOD (PIANO - PREP)

Mrs Tinniswood has been part of the Westholme family for 11 years and is a well-established piano teacher.

As a freelance musician, she is an accompanist for choirs, choral ensembles, music festivals and music exams around the country.

She is a trained music teacher and has worked as a music specialist in the primary sector for over 20 years.



MR P TOPPING (GUITAR)

Mr Topping started his musical journey at 6 years old, taking piano & guitar lessons. He graduated from Birmingham Conservatoire, studying composition with John Mayer and piano with Frank Wibaut. He has built 30 years of tutoring experience in both Birmingham and the Northwest.

Mr Topping decided to take an organ scholarship in 2010 and is currently organist and Director of Music at Immanuel Church, Oswaldtwistle. He currently teaches Jazz/Contemporary Piano at Stonyhurst College, St Wilfrids C. Of E. and Westholme, focusing on guitar.

His love of music covers all styles, playing regularly for weddings, church services and special occasions, preferring to write and arrange bespoke pieces.



MS R LITTLE (SINGING)

Ms Little is passionate about helping each individual student find their unique voice and to build the confidence to communicate honestly and expressively. This passion is underpinned with extensive training, from inspirational vocal pedagogy experts throughout her professional performing and teaching career, spanning over 20 years.

Mrs Little trained as a classical soprano at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (RCS) and at the Royal College of Music and went on to perform at prestigious venues, such as The Royal Albert Hall, St Patrick's Cathedral Dublin, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall and The Basilica di Santa Maria in Rome. She has performed with The BBC Symphony Orchestra, Opera Holland Park and Sinfonia Viva, recorded for film soundtracks and BBC Radio, and has released a solo CD, 'Voice of the Lakes'.

Mrs Little is the Director of the award-winning Amabile Girls' Choir, the Lancashire Trills Ladies' Choir and is one of the musical directors of 'Let's Go Sing', directing over 2000 primary school children in a very special concert series, at the King George's Hall in Blackburn.

Her students have gone on to study Musical Theatre and Classical singing at institutions such as The Central School of Speech and Drama, The Royal Northern College of Music, The Guildhall School of Music, Guildford School of Acting, Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts. Above all, Mrs Little aspires to cultivate a life-long love of singing in all her students.





MR R JOSEPH (DRUMS)

Mr Joseph is a Session Drummer and Tutor based in the North West of England. His live experience as a drummer and musical director includes tours and performances with artists and musicals such as Evita, High School Musical, Hamilton, National Youth Jazz Orchestra- Ft Jacob Collier, Royal College of Music Jazz Orchestra- Ft Gregory Porter, Royal Northern College of Music Session Orchestra, Boney M, and Jamiroquai to name a few.

Mr Joseph also works as a session recording drummer, in studios such as Abbey Road Studios and BBC Maida Vale Studios.

As an educator, he holds teaching positions across schools and colleges in the North-West of England, specialising in 1:1 drum kit tuition, samba, percussion workshops and masterclasses.

MRS J BENNETT (WOODWIND)

Mrs Bennett studied for four years at Trinity College of Music London, played with the National Youth Orchestra of Wales and spent many years tutoring various youth orchestras and ensembles in Surrey, West Glamorgan and Lancashire. She has also taught at Bolton School boys division and Queen Elizabeth's Grammar school.

Mrs Bennett currently teaches at Kirkham Grammar School and Westholme School where she really enjoys taking the flute ensemble. She has played professionally with many orchestras, including on many occasions freelancing alongside BBC Welsh musicians and also enjoys playing chamber music and freelancing.



MS S POTTER (LAMDA)

Ms Susie Potter is a professionally trained actress that has many years of experience performing for TV, Theatre and film.

She writes and produces shorts and is in the process of editing her latest short film, which will be showing at various film festivals in the new year.

Alongside acting and writing, she has taught LAMDA 12+ years in schools all around the UK. Ms Potter specialises in teaching acting, Shakespeare, public speaking, verse and prose.

MRS L LONG (LAMDA)

Mrs Long is a professional actress, musician and vocal coach. She has worked as a LAMDA Teacher at Westholme School since 2014, where she was once a student herself. She started her performing career on the stage of the Croston Theatre - just like her students today!

After leaving Westholme Sixth Form in 2007, she studied at the prestigious Guildford School of Acting (GSA) graduating with a degree in Musical Theatre. Mrs Long worked in the theatre industry for many years in the West End, UK Tours and regional theatres. Her credits include 'Les Misérables' (West End), 'Les Misérables' (feature film), 'Fiddler on the Roof' (Actor/Musician UK Tour, directed by Craig Revel Horwood) and many shows, in beloved regional theatres, such as Manchester Royal Exchange, Bolton Octagon and Leeds City Varieties.



Alongside teaching LAMDA, Mrs Long became an accredited 'Vocal Balance' vocal coach in 2023, taught by some of the industry's best vocal coaches. She is now a vocal coach and 'Acting Through Song' mentor at the national stage school, Stage Box, and she is passionate about advocating all the same techniques with her LAMDA students. She also holds public speaking workshops to professionals in the corporate sector, using the same methods. Mrs Long is passionate about Shakespeare and loves helping young people learn to love 'The Bard' too!

She loves teaching LAMDA at Westholme and feels that no matter which LAMDA subject a student takes, they are learning valuable skills for life - regardless of the path they may eventually find themselves on! Mrs Long teaches the LAMDA subjects - Acting (Solo/Duo/Group); Musical Theatre (Solo/Duo/Group); Shakespeare; Speaking in Public.



MISS E HOLT (LAMDA - PREP 3-6 ONLY)

Miss Holt has worked with children from 4-18 for almost 10 years now. Being an OW herself, she saw throughout her time at Westholme the importance of performing arts; with her partaking in LAMDA lessons, singing and of course, the school shows.

Upon leaving Westholme, Miss Holt attended The Hammond school, where she gained a First Class degree in Musical Theatre and Performance.

Miss Holt is still a performer to this day and is constantly back and forth to London with auditions. Often known for playing Princess Jasmine at Christmas!

Miss Holt always ensures to not only achieve great results in her LAMDA, but the main focus is always to help a child grow in confidence- a key life skill. There is no better feeling as a teacher, than seeing a student who was once shy, now put their hand up in class with confidence. LAMDA should be fun and engaging, something Miss Holt's lessons never fall short of being.

SIGN UP FORMS

Sign up for your LAMDA and Music lessons by scanning the QR codes below. Once this form is submitted, the Director of Music or the Head of Drama will forward your details to the relevant teacher who will arrange lessons directly with you.



 Register

MUSIC FORM



 Register

LAMDA FORM







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