

Music, Drama and Dance



Haileybury



Whether they are working behind the scenes of a production at Hertford Theatre or playing the show-stopping solo for a Big School crowd, Haileybury pupils develop character, identity and confidence.

Through their artistic endeavours, pupils of all ages have developed a reputation for courageous and passionate performances which inspire audiences throughout a busy calendar of events.

From practice room to public shows, Music, Drama and Dance are central to the Haileybury experience. They provide indelible memories and help shape the personal characteristics which see Haileyburians go on to enjoy success in all that they do.

Reaching for the high notes



Previous page:
Our Lower School
Choir performs
at the Royal
Festival Hall in
the Barnardo's
National Choral
Competition

MUSIC

“Music is out-of-this-world!”

Good Schools Guide

Find your stage

With around 480 lessons delivered every week, we work to **deepen creativity, musical awareness and technical prowess** in all of our pupils, encouraging each individual to find their passions.

From **Chapel Choir** and **Symphony Orchestra** to **chamber music ensembles, pop, rock** and **jazz groups**, there are unique opportunities for every type of musician to feel at home.

Music Week is a celebration of inclusivity and creativity, showing the extraordinary depth of musical talent across the school and there are regular showcase concerts throughout the year.

From their very first lessons in Lower School, a pupil is given the required contact and opportunities to find their passions and hone their skills.





Developing passions

Our music teachers have a **wealth of experience** in harnessing potential and bringing out the best in our musicians.

Many of them have won competitions, leading choirs and ensembles to national success while others have had music published by the likes of Boosey & Hawkes, Oxford University Press and Universal Music.

We also have a pool of peripatetic staff who provide specialist support for the music department. Many of these musicians have performed in some of the most prestigious concert halls across the world.

With wide-ranging expertise, the music team are able to provide support which spans an array of musical genres. Pupils are able to try their hand at something new or delve deeper into an area which is of particular interest.

Masterclasses are held with some of the world's finest performers, such as the Škampa Quartet, but pupils are also encouraged to think beyond their immediate musical and intellectual horizons.

With the appropriate support, **challenging our musicians** is a key aspect in building their confidence and aspirations.



MUSIC

Nurturing talent



Music scholars enjoy a **high-performance programme** which includes expert coaching, masterclasses and progress meetings alongside performance opportunities in some of the world's finest venues. They are expected to organise and develop their own small ensembles which allows their creativity to blossom during their time here.

We encourage our most gifted pupils to combine their studies at Haileybury with sessions at the **Royal College, Royal Academy, and Guildhall.**

A number of pupils are selected to become members of such groups as the **National Youth Orchestra** and **National Youth Choir of Great Britain.** We offer music **scholarships** at 11+, 13+ and at 16+ entry with many of our finest musicians going on to further their musical education at either college or university. The academic department is strong – its results are excellent and the teaching of composition is exceptional.



Inspiring environment



The recently extended Music School combines individual practice rooms with larger performance areas.

Teaching suites and recording studios are fitted with high-tech equipment which provide a truly exceptional music facility.

The school is well-equipped with an excellent Steinway concert grand piano and a superb modern Klais chapel organ.

Haileybury boasts an enormous and active Chapel where daily services are supported by

beautiful music from our choirs and instrumentalists. The Chapel is very much at the heart of our community.

The intimate Bradby Hall, with its red brick, stone dressings and tiled roof, is the perfect foil for the grandeur of Big School – the venue for our major music concerts which often include full orchestra and multiple choirs.





MUSIC

“The school has a 30-year tradition of exceptional choral singing and won *BBC Songs of Praise School Choir of the Year*”

Good Schools Guide

A world of opportunity



The **Lower School** and **Senior School Choirs** regularly reach the final of the *Barnardo's National Choral Competition* at Royal Festival Hall.

We have held services at St Stephen Walbrook in London, Munich's Nymphenburg Palace and Salzburg Cathedral.

There has been a huge surge in numbers joining the ensembles, with over 50 pupils in the Lower School Choir and Chapel Choir reaching a record number of 75.

More than 1,000 people enjoy *Proms in the Park* every year while tours to Germany, France and Austria give pupils a taste of music on the continent.

Our spellbinding concert, *The Dream of Gerontius*, featured more than 100 pupils alongside Old Haileyburian and acclaimed opera singer, Rosie Aldridge.

Our range of concerts each year often includes challenging productions, chosen to stretch and develop our most gifted and able musicians.



A man is shown from the chest up, with his arms raised in a gesture of triumph or joy. He is looking upwards with an open mouth, as if shouting or singing. The background is a deep blue, filled with numerous small, white, star-like particles that appear to be floating or falling. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the contours of his face and arms. The overall mood is one of awe and wonder.

Live for
the moment

Previous page:
Andreas brings to vivid life the agonies of the monster in our Lower Sixth production of *Frankenstein*.

DRAMA

“Drama is renowned for bringing a whole host of pupils out of their shells.”

Good Schools Guide

Time to shine



Drama at Haileybury offers an exceptional opportunity for self-expression, communication and reflection. There are two [Showcase](#) events across the year for pupils to gain experience of performing in public and for their parents and peers to see them shine.

Pupils work towards Bronze or Silver Arts Awards through their co-curricular activities but for Middles and Fifths (Years 10 and 11) who are serious about performing and have shown potential, they are offered a

place on our two-year [High Performance Drama \(HPD\)](#) programme.

The bespoke sessions explore skills beyond the GCSE Drama curriculum such as filmmaking, screen writing, screen acting, audition techniques, monologue preparation and directing for the stage.

Pupils also have the opportunity to take [LAMDA](#) lessons, working with an excellent team of tutors through Exam Stars at Haileybury who provide first-class tuition on a solo,

paired or group basis. Pupils can participate in acting, improvisation, public speaking and Shakespeare examinations. In recent years, all grades awarded have been at either merit or distinction.

Legendary British playwright, director and Old Haileyburian Sir Alan Ayckbourn lends his name to our [Ayckbourn Theatre](#), home of our in-school productions.



DRAMA

“It isn’t necessary to be studying drama to take part.
For those who want to help out backstage, that is also an option.”

Tatler Parent Survey

Behind the scenes

The existing [theatre workshop](#) has been refitted and renovated with new equipment introduced on a regular basis. Various drama days allow visiting schools to sample the Haileybury experience and enjoy masterclass sessions.

The [Lower School Drama Club](#) gives pupils the opportunity to hone their skills as they work towards public performances. In addition to acting, pupils of all ages are able to develop a range of skills such as theatre work, prop making, filmmaking, lighting and sound.

[Haileybury TV](#) (HTV) is a web platform for pupil-led film. Alongside industry professionals, they engage in film production, creation and editing at a range of levels, taking in film theory and cinematic skills.

Pupils participate in short films documenting and celebrating school life. They also work on artistic short films, newsroom-style bulletins and live streaming sport.



Available through activities, clubs and as part of the academic electives programme, the future of filmmaking at Haileybury is very exciting. We have capacity for two independent film units to operate at the same time.

Our experienced drama staff have completed Arts Awards training and have overseen a wide range of successful

productions from our very own [Ayckbourn Theatre](#) to the 400-seater Hertford Theatre. They use their expertise to ensure that every pupil is flourishing in a role which suits their skills.





DRAMA

“The shows are amazingly high standard.”

Tatler Parent Survey

Breadth and depth

Some of the finest performances from Haileybury pupils take place on a smaller stage. Our pupils have tackled gritty scripts which feature social realism and psychological thrillers in more intimate productions.



DNA was a powerful look at social hierarchy, *Mine* was a haunting drama about adoption and *A View from the Bridge* was a play of tragic love and obsession.

These productions allow pupils to fully immerse themselves in storylines which pose challenging questions. It also provides opportunities to engage in captivating dialogue and gripping monologues. It is through these experiences that pupils hone more specialist drama skills and techniques.



DRAMA

“Anyone can audition and the cast is as inclusive as possible.”

Tatler Parent Survey

Hitting the big time



Pupils, staff and parents eagerly anticipate the drama spectacular which is performed at Hertford Theatre each year. The cast make us smile, they make us laugh and – without fail – the audience are richly entertained.

Shows have included classics such as *Frankenstein*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Treasure Island* and *The Drowsy Chaperone* which were widely considered the stand-out highlight of our events calendar.

This is a time to shine for some of our most gifted performers who steal the show in front of hundreds of onlookers. But it is also a time for teamwork as a group of unsung heroes work tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure everything runs like clockwork – gaining valuable production skills along the way.

Set design, lighting, sound, costume and make-up are all delivered to an exceptional standard to create unforgettable productions.





Taking flight

Previous page:
Heba excels
in the annual
Haileybury
Dance Show

“What a triumph! Congratulations
on an amazing show.” Parent

DANCE

Express yourself

There has been a significant upsurge in pupils taking up dance, either as a co-curricular activity or sport elective, across the four days of sessions every week.

Dance is run for Middles via the adventure skills programme and as a Sixth Form activity option. There are two classes on a Wednesday afternoon under the tuition of accomplished specialists. Tuesday evening classes include **ballet**, **modern**,

tap and street dance – offered in group, duo or solo format.

Dance Show gives pupils of all ages the chance to perform in public with professional staging, sound and styling. Expertly choreographed routines are a highlight of the co-curricular calendar.





The cast of *The Drowsy Chaperone* take a bow after a feelgood evening combining the best of Haileybury Music, Drama and Dance.



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