**Curriculum**

**Choir**

**Course Overview**

This course aims to develop part-singing, sight-reading and performance skills. Musical selections range from Renaissance madrigals to jazz and contemporary pieces. All members of the choir are required to perform at two concerts, and at Commencement.

**Department Standards**

* Students will sing alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
* Students will perform on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music.
* Students will improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments.
* Students will compose and arrange music within specified guidelines.
* Students will read and notate music.
* Students will listen to, analyze, and describe music.
* Students will evaluate music and music performances.
* Students will understand relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.
* Students will understand music in relation to history and culture.

**Benchmarks**:

* Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the theoretical basis of music through performance
* Demonstrate appropriate rehearsal and performance behaviour with a readiness to work as a team member
* Interpret different styles of music appropriately

Communicate an awareness of music history and cultural heritage through sensitive performance

**Performance Indicators**

* Evidence of regular practice
* Ability to work as a team membe
* Participation in concert performances
* Improvement in sight-reading and theoretical skills
* Participation in class discussions
* Participation in concert performances

**Assessments**

* Vocal range assessment (for section placement only)
* Winter Concert
* Spring Concert
* Graduation Ceremony

**Core Topics**

Musical Literacy (Rhythm, Meter, Pitch)

Posture and Breathing

Diction

Intonation

Pitches and Intervals

Musical Terms and Score Markings

Descriptive Vocabulary and Expressions

Italian Terms

Performance TechniquesHealthy tone production

Holding an independent line

Balance and blending

**Specific Content**

Choral selections including:

Madrigals

Spirituals

Musical Theatre Selections

Sacred Selections

Vocal Warm-ups

**Resources**

Discover Broadway Series (published by Hal Leonard)

Concert Festival Choral Series (published by Hal Leonard)

Voiceworks (Hunt)

Song Stream 1 (Chilcott and Hunt)

Song Stream 2 (Chilcott and Hunt)

Voiceworks at Christmas (Hunt)

Carols for Choirs (OUP, ed. Willcocks and Rutter)

Folk-Songs for Choirs (arr. Rutter)

Choir Builders (Rollo Dilworth)

The Choral Approach to Sight-Singing (Crocker & Eilers)

DVD, CD, Internet