



# Music Development Plan

All schools have been asked to write music development plan.

This document intends to set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stage 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	July 1 <sup>st</sup> 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 1 <sup>st</sup> 2026
Name of the school music lead	Rebecca D'Souza
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Joanna Grimes
Name of local music hub	Warwickshire
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

## Curriculum music

This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

The Music curriculum for music for each year group is published on the school website, with a breakdown of all topics and skills covered each term.

<https://www.rugbyhighschool.co.uk/learning-at-rugby-high/departments-and-curriculum/music>

- Music is taught for 1 period a week (50 minutes) in KS3, 3 periods a week at KS4 and 6 periods a weeks at KS5.
- Our music curriculum is informed by the [model music curriculum](#) (March 2021) at KS3 and we study the AQA GCSE and A Level specifications. The curriculum covers a wide range of musical styles and cultures
- Students have the opportunity to develop their vocal skills in KS3 through a singing unit (Siyahamba) and work towards singing in 3 part harmony. Year 8 and 9 both have singing opportunities with a Reggae and Pop unit. Singing is integrated across other aspects of the KS3, KS4 and KS5 curriculum as a way to further understand musical concepts
- Students have access to a range of musical instruments. These include typical band instruments including basses, guitars, drumkits, together with keyboards/pianos, ukuleles, samba instruments and tuned percussion. We also have a range of classical instruments that students can use. Students rehearse and perform as soloists, in pairs, small groups and occasionally in a whole class setting.
- The music classroom has 14 desktop computers and 4 laptops, all with midi keyboards and access to Soundtrap and Sibelius software. Soundtrap is an online music sequencing software and can be access from home. The KS3 curriculum has one music technology unit per year to aid progression. KS4 and KS5 students have access to Soundtrap and Sibelius (a notation software), in which to compose music in a way best suited to their musical background.

## Co-curricular and Extra-Curricular music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

Students have access to peripatetic lessons within the school day in partnership with Warwickshire Music. These are scheduled on a rotation basis to ensure students do not miss the same lessons each week. These are paid for by parents. Instruments offered are singing, violin, piano, keyboard, drumkit, violin, clarinet, flute and saxophone.

- The school has a choir and orchestra which are advertised throughout the year and take place at lunchtime. We also offer band skill sessions. These are free and run by school music teachers.
- The department opens up our 4 practice rooms and main Music space before school, at break and at lunch time. Students are able to book rooms to rehearse individually or in groups. Rooms are kitted out with a combination of drumkits, guitars, ukuleles and pianos, however many students bring their own instruments

## Musical Opportunities

Students have access to musical experiences and opportunities including:

- Recitals once a term – students from all year groups can be involved through attending choir/orchestra/rock band, or sign up to perform pieces created in class or rehearsed outside of the school setting.
- School productions once a year – depending on the style of performance orchestra or bands will accompany plays. This is open to all.
- Performing in assemblies and awards events – students from all year groups can offer to play in this setting or there are opportunities for choir, band and orchestra to showcase work
- School trips to see performances once a year. This might be to support curriculum or offered to all. These will be chargeable to parents.
- Workshops e.g. Warwickshire Music run events. These may incur an additional cost.
- Talks from external musicians e.g. A Level

## In the future

In the future we intend to:

- Provide more information for students about Career Pathways in the music industry and have a designated career display for Music
- Advertise more external music making opportunities e.g. through the National Youth Choir and Orchestra
- Expand out extra-curricular ensemble provision utilising student-run sessions
- Make more links with Rugby School and local schools e.g. through hosting The Battle of the Bands, continuing to share good practice etc.
- Increase trips to see more varied musical styles with links to the curriculum and for pleasure
- Encourage more students to take up instruments (potentially through a Grade-1-athon, utilising the expertise of our study body in mentoring students towards taking their grade 1)
- Start offering Music Theory sessions leading to ABRSM examinations
- Upgrade the Music Technology provision (hardware and software) and incorporate recording techniques into the KS3 curriculum
- Improve uptake of co-curricular music in school groups and instrumental lessons
- More collaboration between classes in curriculum music
- More opportunities to perform at lunch time including showcasing KS4 and KS5 recitals
- Look into subsidising instrumental tuition for low income students

## Further information

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Our local [music hub](#) also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.