



Music Development Plan

2024

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2023/24
Date this summary was published	10 th July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	10 th July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Richard Nimmo (Head of Music)
Name of local music hub	Calderdale Music

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 students and parents/carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our students' music education.

Part A: Curriculum music

- KS3 follows in-house written schemes
- See 5-year curriculum plan
- KS3 1 hour per week
- Taught by specialists RN (HOD) and SP
- KS3 curriculum is paperless and progress is recorded using iPads and an app called Show-bie
- Each unit is assessed by a defined matrix
- The department is resourced with a class set of Djembe (on loan), keyboards (one per student), ukuleles (one per student), classical guitars (one between 2 students) – we also have a range of electric and bass guitars, drums machines and two drum kits
- KS4 music follows in house written schemes and the Eduqas exam board (started in 2023)
- KS4 2.5 hours per week (as of 2024-25 – was previously 2 hours in year 10 and 2.5 in year 11)
- Students sing in our band skills topics in year 7, 8 and 9

- Students are encouraged to sing in our Ukulele (yr 7), guitar (yr 8) and song writing (yr 9) projects
- Students use iPads every lesson to access the lesson content including help videos and PowerPoints at KS3
- Students use Showbie app to record photographic and video evidence of their progress
- Garage band (DAW) and Noteflight (notation software) are used in year 9
- KS4 students use a computer room with midi keyboards and access Noteflight and Bandlab

Part B: Co-curricular music

- See vision document (insert link)
- School choir (around 40 students – all currently KS3) – led by teaching staff
- Big band – led by teaching staff
- String Group – led by peripatetic staff
- Brass Group – led by peripatetic staff
- Samba club – led by peripatetic staff
- Guitar club – led by peripatetic staff
- Saxophone group – led by peripatetic staff
- Music Theory/GCSE support – led by teaching staff
- Currently 125 students accessing one-to-one instrumental lessons with 8 staff
 - 64 piano
 - 14 woodwind
 - 9 strings
 - 7 brass
 - 9 drum kit
 - 6 classical guitar
 - 6 electric/acoustic guitar
 - 10 vocals
 - Gender breakdown
 - 56 boys
 - 69 girls
- Students having instrumental lessons in school can be entered for ABRSM exams which we host three times a year – (59 candidates entered in total 2023-24)
- Peripatetic staff also use other exam boards and enter students for Rock School and Trinity exams

Part C: Musical experiences

- Extra-curricular students are given the opportunity at least once per year to access a live performance
- We run trips to various places including London's West End and Bridgewater Hall, Manchester to access live performances

- In school we have three main concerts per year
 - Piano festival – this is week of celebration with students playing pianos in corridors across school over break times and lunchtimes with the event culminating in a concert where our students along with guest performers play (October)
 - GCSE performance Showcase – this is where our students showcase their solo and ensemble performances to parents (Spring Term)
 - Ensembles concert – this is where our enrichment groups have an opportunity to perform what they have been working on to parents and friend (Summer Term)
- In addition to this, we have a house music competition organised by the sixth form officials in collaboration with the music department
- Musicians have an opportunity to perform at a number of wider school events including
 - Open evenings
 - Annual Prizegiving
 - Year 7 transition evening
 - Parent evenings
 - Christmas fayre
 - Assemblies
- We run international concerts tour (aiming for every two years) and recently took our enrichment groups to Belgium

In the future

This is about what the school is planning for subsequent years.

- Further develop and tweak our assessment procedures at KS3 to ensure that skills are explicitly built upon – new assessment radars to be formulated in Autumn term
- Develop more career links in lessons – including a careers-based homework each unit that will begin with KS3 in September
- Continue to resource and development new GCSE course using Eduqas specification
- Create an opportunity for guest speakers to come in and speak about the music industry
- Continue to work in partnership with Calderdale Music Trust and provide workshop and performance opportunities for students
- Create more opportunities for singing in KS3 curriculum – beginning with new year 7 cohort
- Increase the number of and range of extra-curricular activities and utilise more of our peripatetic staff to do this
- Build upon links with other organisations (such as NGSA, Calderdale Music and other schools with a similar context) in order to share good practice and resources
- Further embed use of technology throughout the curriculum including iMacs
- Develop a performing arts student leadership group to allow students a greater voice in the planning of events and opportunities
- Work closely with the newly appointed drama lead to produce whole-school productions - planned for Spring Term
- Restore our annual Christmas celebration at Halifax Minister – planned for December