

Music development plan summary: Whittington Green School

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2024-25. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2025-26.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should 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 stages 1 to 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

The summary should reflect your school’s music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	Summary of 2024/2025 and plans for 2025/2026
Date this summary was published	July 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2026
Name of the school music lead	Kathleen Pettit
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Tracey Burnside
Name of local music hub	Derbyshire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	NA

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.

Part A: 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 links for each year group's Music Curriculum is below which can be found on the schools website:

Year 7:

https://www.wgs.derbyshire.sch.uk/docs/PageFiles/Curriculum_2025/Y7/25_26_Y7_Music.pdf

Year 8:

https://www.wgs.derbyshire.sch.uk/docs/PageFiles/Curriculum_2025/Y8/25_26_Y8_Music.pdf

Year 9:

https://www.wgs.derbyshire.sch.uk/docs/PageFiles/Curriculum_2025/Y9/25_26_Y9_Music.pdf

Year 10:

https://www.wgs.derbyshire.sch.uk/docs/PageFiles/Curriculum_2025/Y10/25_26_Y10_Music.pdf

Year 11:

https://www.wgs.derbyshire.sch.uk/docs/PageFiles/Curriculum_2025/Y11/25_26_Y11_Music.pdf

The Curriculum has been planned so that each unit covers the KS3 National Curriculum and that there is a clear Spiral Curriculum throughout y7 and y8 and then y9 through to y11. Each Unit includes scaffolding and differentiation for SEND students so that they can access all of the tasks set.

Time allocation (per fortnight) for 2025/2026

Year 7 - 2

Year 8 – 2

Year 9 – 3

Year 10 – 5

Year 11 – 6

Model Music Curriculum:

Units within all year groups cover the four sections of the Model Music Curriculum (Singing, Listening, Composing and Performing)

Year 7

The y7 Curriculum has been completely planned from scratch to start in September 2025. It is a curriculum that is based on Musical elements rather than units and will focus on Melody, Harmony or Rhythm with some secondary Music elements such as dynamics, tempo etc. It will include some performing work (solo, pairs, small groups or full class), composition tasks and some listening/appraising tasks. There will be 10 subject specific key words which will be learnt through a zero-stakes testing at the start of the unit, revised for homework and then tested and marked near the end of the unit. There will be the opportunity to play different instruments such as keyboard, ukulele, drumkit, acoustic guitars and 'junk' instruments which we are hoping will be made by the outdoor education group throughout the year in preparation for this unit in summer.

Singing is included in lessons as a plenary so that it can be covered regularly throughout the academic year. In terms 1 and 2 singing is completed in lessons and then students are invited to take part in the arts evening/musical cabaret evening to perform some of these songs to an audience. This will then create a y7 singing group that will continue to rehearse as an extra-curricular group.

The Model Music Curriculum (MMC) sets out two models in instrumental performance (keyboard and ensemble) We will be covering keyboard through unit 1, 2 and 5. We cover ensemble performance through units 3, 4, 5 and 6, learning keyboard, ukulele, acoustic guitars, body percussion, chair drumming and hand percussion.

Traditional notation will be learnt in units 1 and 2 however we also look at Guitar/Ukulele Tab in units 4 and 5, and rhythmic notation in units 3 and 6

Year 8

Singing continued to be included in lessons as a plenary so that it can be covered regularly throughout the academic year. It is also covered in the ensemble performance unit.

Listening is continued from year 7 into and throughout year 8. Listening exercises are completed within each unit which corresponds with that particular genre or style.

Composition is developed from year 7 through continuing to develop chord sequences and melodic lines based on specific scales. Composition is used particularly within hooks & riffs and guitars. Improvisation and melody/accompaniment parts are featured within these units.

We cover keyboard through the keyboard booklet solo performance, hooks & riffs, and ensemble performance. We cover ensemble performance through the ensemble performance unit, learning keyboard, ukulele and chair drumming.

Traditional notation is developed through the keyboard booklet unit however we also continue to develop Guitar/Ukulele Tab and rhythmic notation

Year 9

We start introducing the key components of the Eduqas GCSE Music course, continuing to develop from years 7 and 8 and throughout the whole of year 9. Singing and solo performing on their chosen instrument is covered as well as starting to introduce their own individual composition techniques. Listening knowledge and skills are developed through continuous recapping of the elements, identification of popular, classical and world instruments, and listening exercise based on GCSE-style questions.

Year 10 & Year 11

Component 1 (performing)

Component 2 (composing)

Component 3 (appraising)

All of these components are delivered through years 10 and 11 to develop their knowledge and skills so that they can complete their solo performance, ensemble performance, free composition, composition set to a brief in y11 and listening, analysing set works and general appraising in line with the Eduqas GCSE Music specification

Part B: Co-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.

We currently have a singing peri teacher who comes in once a week through the Derbyshire Music Hub. She currently has 10 students ranging from years 7 to 11 who all have their lessons one-to-one. This year we have also introduced a keyboard/piano peri teacher who currently teaches 3 students from y8 to y9 and we have also introduced a guitar/ukulele peri teacher who currently teaches 7 Students from y7 to y10. In September 2025 we are introducing a drum teacher of which there will be 5 students starting in years 8 and 10.

We currently have band club after school which consists of 16 (boys and girls) from y7 to y11 and includes singing, guitars, bass guitars, keyboards, ukulele and drum kit. We

are hoping that we can create a lower school band (y7 and y8) and an upper school band (y9 – y11) in September.

The y7 singing group has continued into y8 and rehearses once a week in form time. It consists of 15 students, boys and girls. This group have already stated that they want to continue into y9

We are hoping to start another y7 singing group after Christmas. This will give us an opportunity to have a lower (y7) and upper (y9) singing group

All of these clubs are open to all students within y7 to y11.

Arts Ambassadors (boys and girls y7 – y9) will now be known as Performing Arts Champions (PACs) and will consist of students who have applied to become a PAC from y7 – y10. We are also introducing the Performing Arts Leaders (PALs) of which are picked by the Performing Arts department from Y11 who have shown and continue to show dedication and commitment to the performing arts within school.

After successfully performing the 2-night and primary matinee production of High School Musical, which included students from y7 through to y10, in December 2024, we are now putting on another production in December 2025 including students from y7 to y11. Form times and after school rehearsals will be used for the singing/dancing/acting/combining all rehearsals.

For 2024/25 we created a band rehearsal space which is a bookable resource for students during their lunchtimes and after school with the performing arts. This will continue in 2025/2026

We are considering the option of a recording studio-style rehearsal room so that singers can rehearse and record when they wish.

Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

For 2024/2025 we have delivered the following:

December 2024 – Production involving singers, drama and dance – years 7 – 10. There was a free primary matinee and 2 nights which will included admission charges for the audience

December 2024 – Musical Cabaret Evening involving singers, bands, keyboard/piano solos, guitar solos, y8 singers. This involved students from y7 to y11. We also invited some ex-students who still perform as a band, to perform in this cabaret evening.

Admission charges applied for the audience. We also invited the DT department to put on a Christmas market of food and items that had been made by the students.

March 2025 – Musical Cabaret Evening involving singers, bands, keyboard/piano solos, y8 singers. This involved students from y7 to y10. Admission charges applied for the audience.

July 2025 – a Performing Arts evening involving music dance and drama with a key stage 4 photography exhibition. This includes students in years 7 to 10. Admission charges apply for the audience.

For 2025/2026 we are proposing:

December 2025 – Production involving singers, drama and dance – years 7 – 11. There will be a free primary matinee and 2 nights which will include admission charges for the audience. We are intending on auditioning for this by Easter of 2026 so that rehearsals can start from May 2026

March 2026 – Musical Cabaret Evening involving singers, bands, keyboard/piano solos, guitar solos, y8 singers. This involved students from y7 to y11. Possibility for another department to have a showcase/stall to sell items created and made by students

We are also looking at doing some band workshops at a local primary school with some of our students. These will be free of charge

In the future

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

We have created a brand new, elements based Curriculum for y7 starting in September 2025 which we will review this time in term 6 This will give us more variety in practical, listening and composing work as well as a deeper understanding and knowledge of the elements of Music.

We will create a new y8 Curriculum to spiral from the y7 Curriculum we started this year. This will then be delivered in September 2026

We are creating a second music room which also has computers in. This will give us the opportunity to include music technology in our curriculum as well as not having to use a non-specialist room when there are 2 music lessons on at the same time

We are hoping to offer more peripatetic instrumental lessons. We have now established singing, guitar and keyboard/piano but we would like to expand on these instruments. These will be charged however there are concessions for SEND and PP students as well as sharing lesson for half of the cost (this will continue to build our links with Derbyshire Music Hub)

We are going to continue to build links with local primary schools. Some of the feeder primaries have been to watch matinee performances of the production and concerts, Kathleen Pettit has been going to the feeder primaries to establish a link with their Music leads and to gain a better understanding of their delivery of the model music curriculum and what resources they have. We are hoping to introduce some band workshops using the KS4 student.

We have had the DT department heavily involved in a few of our concerts this year as well as exhibit photography work and so we would now like open the opportunity out to other subjects

Further information (optional)

Already established

Planned for next year (2025/2026)

To be planned for 2025/2026

The 7 key features of high-quality music provision:

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
 - 1 hour a week for year 7 and year 8
 - 3 hours a fortnight for year 9
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
 - peri singing, guitar, keyboard/piano lessons currently being offered
 - Start drum peri lessons
 - Continue to expand on instruments being offered for peri lessons in 2025/2026
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
 - year 8 singing group to continued 2024/2025
 - start year 7 singing group 2025/2026
 - establish a lower and upper school choir 2025/2026
- a school ensemble, band or group
 - Established school student band continued 2024/2025

Band space created for students to book at lunch and after school 2024/2025

Possible split so that a lower and upper band can be introduced 2025/2026

- space for rehearsals and individual practice

one rehearsal room next to main music room to be used for in-class practice

band space created that can be booked by solo or groups rehearsals

Second music room with computers being created for ks3/4 classes

- a termly school performance

end of term 2 production (music, dance, drama), end of term 2 musical cabaret evening, end of term 4 cabaret evening and end of term 6 arts evening (music, dance, drama with photography exhibition) in 2024/2025

end of term 2 production (music, dance, drama), end of term 4 musical cabaret evening

- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

opportunity was given for all of y10 and half of y8 to see a visiting rapper (Shao Dao) who performed to the students and gave a talk to the y10 GCSE students.

This was set up through the Derbyshire Music hub

Research is needed to plan a trip to see a live performance (possible links with local 6th forms to see if we can watch a level btec level 3 performances)