



Music Development Plan

Academic year that this summary covers	2026 – 2027
Date this summary was published	3/9/2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Daniel Nock
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Tom Squires
Name of local music hub	Birmingham Music Education Partnership
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Services for Education; ProMusictuition

Music Vision

At Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4, our intent is to develop pupils into confident, expressive and knowledgeable musicians who can think, speak and act as musicians. We aim for students not only to understand a wide range of musical styles and traditions, but to explore, discuss and demonstrate this understanding creatively through performance, composition and listening.

We want pupils to collaborate effectively, respect the ideas and abilities of others, and develop the confidence to share their work with wider audiences. Alongside the classroom curriculum, we are committed to offering rich musical experiences beyond lessons, including instrumental tuition, ensemble opportunities and regular chances to perform. By the end of KS4, pupils are prepared for further study and equipped with the cultural capital and practical skills to engage with music throughout their lives.



Key objectives from National Plan for Music Education (2022)

Strand	Objective	How the objective is being met or work needed	Status
Curriculum	Timetabled curriculum of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1-3	All pupils in Years 7 to 9 study two hours of music every two weeks.	
	Opportunities to take music qualifications in secondary school (eg GCSEs, A levels, graded music exams)	GCSE, ABRSM, and Rockschoool examinations are offered in school. A Level is currently not offered. Not many students choose to take instrumental grades.	
Extra-Curricular	A school choir and/or vocal ensemble	A whole school choir is run weekly before school and during form time. The choir performs a minimum of twice a year. This could be developed into more external performances.	
	A school ensemble/band/group	There are four formal ensembles that run weekly. Informal bands use the practise rooms and perform at events.	
	Space for rehearsals and individual practice	Two rehearsals rooms, a large music classroom and the hall are all used for rehearsals	
	Develop a termly school performance	The school has seven scheduled performance opportunities in 2026-27	
	Provide opportunities to enjoy live performances at least once a year	The school puts on its own performances which the community are encouraged to enjoy. New for 26-27 the school are planning to start running a yearly trip to Symphony Hall for Year 7.	
Instrumental and Vocal Tuition	Access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice	The school offers lessons in voice, piano, guitar, ukulele, bass guitar and percussion. The school has a team of five Visiting Music Teachers. A wider range of instruments have been offered but not enough interest generated to employ further teachers.	

WORK HARD | BE KIND | AIM HIGH



Not achieved/significant barriers to success		Partially achieved/some barriers to success		On track to achieve in 26/27		Fully Achieved	
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Music Curriculum

An outline of the school's music curriculum is available in the curriculum handbook, which can be accessed via the school website.

At Key Stage 4, students have the opportunity to study Eduqas GCSE Music. Typically, around 8 to 10% of each cohort chooses this course. During Key Stage 3, students build their musical skills through a range of practical activities, including singing, keyboard performance and music technology.

The department aims to make GCSE Music accessible to all students, not only those who already receive instrumental or vocal lessons. Classroom teaching is designed to provide the knowledge, skills and understanding needed for further study in music. Each year, some students successfully choose GCSE Music despite having had no previous instrumental or vocal tuition.

To support students taking GCSE Music, the school provides free individual instrumental or vocal lessons for all pupils enrolled on the course.



Extra-Curricular & Enrichment

Peripatetic music lessons are designed to support students in developing specialist skills on an instrument of their choosing, while also nurturing a lifelong love of music. Lessons will take place during the school day, at break time, or during lunch, with lesson times rotating to minimise disruption to the same curriculum lessons each week.

Students will receive 33 x 20-minute across the academic year. All lessons will work towards graded qualifications, providing students with clear progression routes, meaningful targets, and opportunities to celebrate their achievements through performance and accreditation.

Annual lesson costs are as follows:

- Piano and Keyboard - £605
- Brass (Baritone, Cornet, Euphonium, Flugel Horn, Tenor Horn, French Horn, Trombone, Trumpet, Tuba) - £605
- Upper Strings (Violin and Viola) - £605
- Lower Strings (Cello and Double Bass) - £605
- Woodwind (Flute, Clarinet, Bassoon, Saxophone, Oboe, Recorder) - £605
- Vocal lessons - £462
- Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar, or Bass Guitar - £374
- Percussion (Drum Kit or Xylophone) - £242



Examinations

Pupils are encouraged to take examinations in music. They are useful in providing a goal to work towards and indicate the standard attained. Parents/carers will be consulted when we believe it would be a good idea to enter. The decision of whether to go ahead will involve the pupil, parent/carer and teacher.

Music enrichment clubs allow students to develop their musical skills beyond the classroom. They build confidence, creativity and teamwork through regular rehearsals and performances, while fostering a lifelong enjoyment of music and a strong sense of belonging within the school community.

Steel Band Club	Mr Clarke	Open to all	Thursday 3:20 - 4:20pm	Hall
Percussion Club	Mr Turner	Open to all	Tuesday 3:20 - 4:20pm	R12
Hillcrest String Ensemble	Mr Gregory	Grade 1- 8 on a string instrument	Tuesday 3:20 - 4:20pm	Dance Studio
Choir Club	Ms Francis	Open to all	Thursday 8:30 - 9:10am	Hall
Guitar Club	Mr Elwell	Open to all	Wednesday 3:20 - 4:20pm	R12
GCSE Coursework Club	Mr Nock	KS4	Thursday 3:20 - 4:20pm	R12



Musical Events 2026-27

- Arts Showcase Evening
- Open Evening
- Talent Show
- Enrichment Performances in Assembly
- Christmas Concert
- Christmas Matinee for Primary Schools
- Summer Show
- Summer Matinee for Primary Schools
- Hillcrest Awards
- Year 6 Transition Day
- Staff Performances

Music Development Action Plan 2026-27

We are committed to ensuring that all pupils can participate, progress and achieve in music, regardless of disadvantage, SEND, prior musical experience or financial circumstances. Participation in curriculum music, instrumental and vocal tuition, enrichment and performance opportunities will be monitored to identify barriers and under-representation. Where these are identified, targeted action will be taken to improve access and participation.

Priority	Baseline / rationale	Actions 2026-27	Success criteria / impact	Lead	Review
1. Continue developing a diverse and representative curriculum	Curriculum representation requires further development to increasingly reflect and celebrate the school's diverse cultural community.	Audit Y7-11 curriculum for breadth and representation. Identify gaps and revise schemes/resources to include authentic study of music from a wider range of cultures, traditions and composers.	Curriculum audit completed. Revised content embedded across Y7-9 by July 2027. Pupil voice demonstrates that students encounter and value a broad range of musical traditions.	Music Lead	Dec/Apr /Jul



2. Embed Music Technology	Music technology is identified as an area for further curriculum development.	Map progression in music technology across KS3. Develop resources/equipment and incorporate planned opportunities for composition, recording and production.	By July 2027, each KS3 year group has a planned music-technology experience, with identifiable progression from Y7-9. Curriculum review and pupil work demonstrate implementation.	Music Lead	Dec/Apr /Jul
3. Increase Progression to GCSE Music	Approximately 8-10% of each cohort currently chooses GCSE Music.	Analyse uptake and barriers. Promote GCSE through KS3 curriculum, enrichment, performances and options information. Identify and encourage pupils demonstrating musical interest/potential, including those without private tuition.	Maintain or increase GCSE uptake from the current 8-10% baseline, while monitoring participation by PP/SEND and prior instrumental experience. Barriers identified and actions recorded.	Music Lead	Options /Jul
4. Strengthen Ensemble Participation	Four formal ensembles currently operate alongside informal student bands.	Consolidate current ensembles; monitor attendance; identify gaps in participation and develop provision in response to pupil interest and changing cohorts.	Sustainable programme of regular ensembles maintained throughout 2026-27. Participation increases towards the whole-school enrichment target of 1 in 10 pupils.	Music Lead	Termly
5. Increase Access to Instrumental and Vocal Tuition	Current participation is approximately 1 in 33 pupils.	Promote tuition to pupils/families; monitor take-up by instrument and pupil group; identify financial or other barriers; work with external providers to respond to demand.	Increase participation from 1 in 33 to 1 in 20 pupils by July 2027. Participation data reviewed termly, including PP/SEND.	Music Lead/SLT Lead	Termly
6. Increase Participation in Music Enrichment	Music enrichment includes Steel Band, Percussion, Choir and Guitar alongside GCSE support.	Maintain a varied programme; actively promote opportunities; use registers to monitor participation and target underrepresented pupils.	At least 1 in 10 pupils participate in music enrichment by July 2027. Participation monitored termly.	Music Lead	Termly



7. Improve Equitable Participation	Increase PP and SEND participation.	Monitor enrichment and tuition participation by PP and SEND. Identify pupils not accessing provision and provide targeted encouragement/support, addressing identified barriers where possible.	At least 1 in 10 PP and SEND pupils participate in music enrichment by July 2027. Participation gap reviewed termly and responsive actions recorded.	Music Lead/SLT Lead	Termly
8. Develop Access to High-Quality Live Music	Annual Y7 Symphony Hall visit is planned as a new development.	Establish partnership/contact with Symphony Hall or another high-quality venue. Plan and deliver a Y7 live-music experience. Explore opportunities for further external performances/visits.	All Y7 pupils offered at least one high-quality live professional music experience during 2026–27. Annual visit established for future cohorts.	Music Lead	Apr/Jul
9. Sustain and Develop Performance Opportunities	The school already has an extensive programme of performances and events.	Deliver planned performance programme, including two main productions. Increase opportunities for ensembles and individuals to perform to school and external audiences.	Two main productions delivered. Pupils have regular opportunities to perform during the year. Participation recorded to demonstrate breadth of involvement.	Music Lead/Performing Arts	Termly
10. Develop Future Musical Progression	GCSE, ABRSM and Rockschoool routes are available, but A Level Music is not currently offered and relatively few pupils take instrumental grades.	Make progression routes explicit to pupils, including graded examinations, post-16 study and music/creative-industry pathways. Encourage appropriate instrumental pupils towards graded qualifications.	Progression information incorporated into curriculum/careers provision. Number and proportion of pupils entering graded examinations recorded, establishing a clear baseline for 2027-28.	Music Lead	Jul