

Music development plan summary: Wellington School



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	October 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Nia Wyn Moorhouse
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Sean Fenwick
Name of local music hub	Greater Manchester Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Trafford Music Service

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.

KS3

Students receive 2 hours of Music lessons over a fortnightly timetable. The KS3 curriculum has been developed in order to include key features of the National Plan for Music Education and is also informed by the Model Music Curriculum. It is a broad and balanced curriculum designed to meet the needs of our students, whilst also being challenged to further extend their musical knowledge and interest.

The keyboard is used as the main teaching tool throughout all units at Key Stage 3, however students are able to specialise in the ukulele, guitar or bass guitar on completion of the Cool Britannia scheme of learning in year 9. This is to ensure that all students regardless of prior experience or circumstance have the opportunity to develop their instrumental performance skills.

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Singing is a feature of all lessons at KS3 and some lessons at KS4 & 5. We teach students how to use their voices effectively, learning about vocal health, breathing and developing their singing techniques throughout KS3. In 2024-25 Year 7 will have 1 singing assembly every half term to continue to build on the collective singing experienced in the first half term.

Year 7

Find your voice: a unit which results in a public performance at the Bridgewater Hall for all our Year 7 students as part of our school's Awards Evening

I Got Rhythm

Classical Traditions

Popular Traditions

Year 8

Improvisation

Variations

Musical Theatre

Year 9

Cool Britannia

Film Music

School of Rock

KS4

Students receive 5 hours of Music over a fortnightly timetable. We teach the Eduqas GCSE course over two years.

KS5

Depending on staffing and student numbers students receive a minimum of 6 hours direct teaching time over a fortnightly timetable with a further 4 hours of independent study based around composition techniques. We teach the Eduqas A Level course over two years. This course allows students to specialise in either Performance or Composition for the NEA component.

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Students who receive specialist music tuition are also entered for ABRSM, Trinity, RSL external examinations. An ABRSM visit takes place every year and school provide an accompanist for most students if possible.

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.

Instrumental and Vocal Lessons

Both instrumental and vocal lessons are offered to students by the school. Students are taught by self-employed independent teachers on the school site, on a rota so it minimises impact on other curriculum learning. Lessons are 20m long and are one-to-one, paired or grouped depending on the instrument. Lessons for all students are heavily subsidised by the school and students in receipt of additional funding such as PP receive these lessons free of charge. We currently have a team of 8 teachers who offer the following lessons:

Piano

Strings – Violin, Viola, Cello

Woodwind – Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Saxophone

Brass – All brass instruments

Guitar – classical & rock and pop

Voice

Drum Kit

Extra curricular activities

Within school our extra-curricular offer is run at lunchtimes and after school by Music Department staff with some groups being led by peripatetic staff and other school teachers who support the department. Some activities run throughout the year some will run when appropriate.

Sing (Choir)

Sing with 7s (Year 7 Choir)

Orchestra (open to all players of any standard)

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Brass Ensemble (open to all brass players)
String Ensemble (open to all string players)
Wind Band (open to all wind players)
KS3 Rock Band
Samba Band
Keyboard Club
ABRSM Theory Club
Composition / Songwriting Club (this will run for a period of time during 2024-2025)
Whole School Musical – Pit Band & Sound Desk

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 the past number of years all Year 7 students perform at the school Awards Evening at the Bridgewater Hall. This year Year 7 will also have a singing assembly once every half term to continue building on the work completed during the first few weeks.

We provide the following opportunities for students to perform either as part of a school extra curricular group or to showcase their learning through their instrumental/vocal tuition:

Awards Evening performances

Carol Service

Recitals (ongoing throughout the year)

Easter Concert

WellyFest Talent Show.

Whole school musical.

When concerts take place throughout the school year there is no charge for students or audience members and is open to all students to participate.

We also take part in community events in the local area such as the Christmas Lights Switch On, Lantern Parades and endeavour to visit other community based activities.

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In the future



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

- Singing assemblies to be introduced for Year 7 & 8 next year so that we become a singing school.
- To create more opportunities for trips to see live musicians play.
- Foster links with other organisations such as the RNCM so that our young people can experience making music not only inside the classroom but see how it's created in the 'real' world.