

Music development plan summary: Whalley Range High School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	09/2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	07/2025
Name of the school music lead	Dr Tim Jackson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Christine Plews
Name of local music hub	One Education
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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 music curriculum is planned for in all year groups across Key Stage 3 as guided by the National Curriculum, and is partially informed by the MMC. Our curriculum offer includes a range of musical attributes including singing, listening, performing and composing.
- Music is taught through the use of keyboards, percussion instruments, ukuleles and singing. Different genres are taught and explored in lessons.
- Our students in Year 7 have a one-hour lesson per week, throughout the year, and in Year 8 and 9, students are on a rotation each half term/term. Year 8 provision is for 18 hours per year, in rotation with Drama. Year 9 provision is 12 hours per year, in rotation with other Art and Technology subjects.
- All curriculum music lessons take place in a specialised music environment with specialist equipment.

- There is a designated member of school staff (lead music teacher) who holds qualifications for music at degree level, who has responsibility for music and advocates for the subject across the school.
- There are a range of instruments within the school, including whole class sets of instruments, such as keyboards, ukeleles, steel pans, drums, and percussion instruments.
- The school has access to and uses teaching resources to support music teaching and learning.
- The department has computers and Macs, and up to date software that is accessible for whole classes to use simultaneously. This includes Mixcraft software, which enables students to compose their own music.

Please see the curriculum overview in the following link:

wrhs1118.co.uk/curriculum/dcp

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.

- As a school, we engage with outside agencies to provide 1-1 and small group tuition on a range of instruments, which are free for all students. We regularly engage and plan with our peripatetic teachers, allowing for a consistent approach to music provision. There are dedicated spaces for 1-1/small group music tuition within the school.

Each week, we offer

- 3 hours of steel pan tuition.
- 2 and a half of hours of drum tuition.
- 3 and a half hours of guitar tuition.
- 3 and a quarter hours of string tuition.
- 5 hours of singing and piano tuition.

We offer students who take up the offer of free music tuition additional opportunities to perform in both formal and informal settings on an annual basis. We have Rock band, Choir, String Group and Steel Pan ensembles. It is planned that the ensembles rehearse and perform a range of styles and genres. There is an opportunity for the ensembles to perform to parents or peers bi-annually.

- Pupils are able to come and rehearse individually and in small groups during, breaks, lunchtimes and after school.
- Non-departmental staff take part in rehearsals and concerts alongside pupils and are able to sing in the staff choir.

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.

- In collaboration with the designated music leader, senior leaders drive the development of music across the school and advocate for the importance of music in school life.
- All students have opportunities to listen to music from a range of cultures and traditions in all key stages through our weekly 'music listening parties' during social times.
- Year 7 students who have instrumental tuition get the opportunity to visit a theatre or concert hall for a performance/workshop.
- Year 9 students who have instrumental tuition get the opportunity to visit the RNCM to raise aspirations and enrich their cultural capital.
- Ensemble performances regularly take place in assemblies, school events, break and lunchtimes.
- We hold music concerts, where parents and peers can attend to watch students perform, these are held at the end of Autumn and Summer Terms.
- Each year, we collaborate with the Drama department and hold an annual musical performance.

In the future

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

- In future we will continue to build on the strength of our musical production with a full musical in collaboration with drama. We will look to further increase participation in music lessons in school and the school band and choirs.
- We will continue to build in opportunities for students (Year 7 and 8) who have instrumental tuition to visit a theatre or concert hall for a performance/workshop.
- We will continue to build in opportunities for students (Year 9) who have instrumental tuition to visit the RNCM to raise aspirations and enrich their cultural capital.
- We will continue to build in regular ensemble performances in assemblies, school events, at break and lunchtimes to showcase the talent we have.
- We will continue to build in opportunities to enjoy live Music performances at the end of Autumn and Summer Terms.