

# Music development plan summary: Allerton High School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	June 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2025
Name of the school music lead	Craig Cockerill
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Vicky Hepworth [AHT] Lisa Williams [DHT]
Name of local music hub	Leeds Music Education Partnership (Lead partner – Artforms Music)
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Music activities are supported by a range of professionals from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Leeds Conservatoire</li><li>• Leeds Beckett University</li><li>• BIMM Music Institute</li><li>• Waterbear College of Music</li></ul>

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our students 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 or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our students' 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 students can achieve.

At Key Stage 3, students receive Music for one hour per week. During Music lessons, students take part in whole class and small group ensemble work, as well as paired and independent study. Singing, keyboard work and percussion form part of the performance element of curriculum, but there are opportunities to learn other instruments through our Pop Song performance units.

The music curriculum is informed by the model music curriculum ie learning is sequenced to support development of singing, listening, composing and performing.

The department follows the Eduqas GCSE and A level specifications. Please click the following links for further information:

[Key Stage 3](#)

[GCSE Music](#)

[A Level Music](#)

All students have the opportunity to take graded Music exams through instrumental and voice lessons in school. These are available for the following exam boards:

- ABRSM
- Trinity College London
- RSL Rockscool

Lessons are adapted where appropriate for SEND students and we have a strong relationship with Green Meadows SILC; their students have successfully participated in mainstream lessons at all key stages and achieved Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications.

## 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.

Currently, we are able to offer tuition in the following areas: all woodwind instruments, piano/keyboard, drumkit, guitar/bass guitar, strings, brass and voice.

Specialist tutors from Artforms (part of our local Music hub) visit school every week; they provide students with the opportunity to play for enjoyment but also prepare students for performances and exams in small groups or on a 1:1 basis.

All instruments (apart from keyboard and drumkit) are available to hire from Artforms and subsidies are available for Parent/carers who meet specific criteria.

Current extra-curricular activities are as follows:

- Key Stage 3 Band (Tuesday, 3-4pm)
- Concert Band (Tuesday 3-4pm)
- Composition/Music theory drop-in (Wednesday 3-4pm)
- Rehearsals for the whole school musical production [Matilda in February 2025]

All students are welcome to participate in music activities and we work closely with the SEND Team in school to ensure SEND students are actively encouraged to get involved.

The Music Team has two fully equipped music classrooms, various small practice rooms, a larger 'live' room which links to our recording studio and access to the main school hall for rehearsal and performing.

The department is open most breaks, lunchtimes and after school so that students can make use of the facilities.

'Yorkshire Late Starter Strings Orchestra' uses the school as a base for rehearsal every Saturday morning.

## 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.

Concerts are scheduled on a regular basis. All students are given the opportunity to perform and some are given the opportunity to be involved in events management. The Winter Concert is the highlight of the Music department's calendar, but our Spring and Summer concerts are also extremely popular. Smaller scale recitals are given throughout the year and all students can enter our annual music competition which is organised and staged by Post 16 music students and judged by professionals from the Music Industry.

Post-16 students also take part in a community event – the annual Christmas lights switch-on in Meanwood and GCSE students give performances in local primary schools.

All students are given the opportunity to take part in a school production. Because of the numbers of students involved in recent years, we now alternate a Year 7/8/9 Musical Production in one academic year followed by a Year 9/10/11/12/13 Music Production in the following year. In addition, students contribute musically to our annual Culture Day which celebrates the diversity of our school community.

Students are regularly exposed to live music, either by visiting professional artists or by attending concerts/events. We organise a visit to Liverpool for GCSE/A level Music students to learn about the Music Industry and the Music and Drama departments jointly run an annual visit to London for GCSE/A level students to experience live music/theatre/performance.

With all events/visits, parent/carers meeting certain criteria may be eligible for discounts; relevant information is made available to parent/carers for each visit/event by the school's Finance Team.

## In the future

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

We are constantly exploring opportunities for our students to experience and learn about Music. Further visits from industry professionals and the chance to see Music in Higher Education are planned later in 2024-25.

Expanding our range of extra-curricular activities is also planned with a new member of staff joining the team, expanding our capacity to include more students in creative music making.

Developing further links with local primary schools is also being explored in order to have greater continuity in terms of students taking instrumental/voice lessons.

## Further information

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Further information about Music Education Hubs is available from:

[Arts Council England](#)

[Artforms Leeds](#)

[Leeds Music Education Partnership](#)