

Music development plan summary: *King Edward VI Handsworth School*

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2023-25
Date this summary was published	June 2023
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2025
Name of the school music lead	Ewan McIntosh
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	C Trotter
Name of local music hub	Services for 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 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 KS3, Music is delivered for 3 lessons a fortnight in Years 7 and 8 and 2 lessons a fortnight in Year 9. A full curriculum plan is available on the website [here](#)

For KS4, Students receive 5 lessons a fortnight. Students follow the Eduqas GCSE Music specification.

For A level, Students receive 10 Lessons a fortnight. Students follow the Eduqas A Level Music Specification.

Part B: Co-curricular music

This is about opportunities for students to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how students can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

Outside of Curriculum music, students are able to have individual instrumental lessons of either 20 or 30 minutes. These lessons are chargeable. Students eligible for the Pupil Premium, are able to use their funding to pay for instrumental lessons. Students who take GCSE or A Level music as an option, have a weekly lesson funded by the school.

Lessons are taught by specialist peripatetic teachers employed by both the school and Services to Educations (Birmingham Music Hub)

Over 400 students have a regular weekly instrumental lesson at school.

Lessons are available in the following instruments

- Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass
- Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Bassoon, Saxophone.
- French Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Baritone, Tuba.
- Piano, Voice, Classical Guitar, Electric Guitar and Bass Guitar.
- Drums and Percussion
- Dhol, Sitar, Harmonium, Tabla

The school has a wide range of ensembles which occur during registration and lunch times. These are differentiated so that students of all levels have a chance to make music at an appropriate standard. Ensembles include

- Orchestra (Grade 3+ Standard. All Instruments)
- Training Orchestra (Open to all)
- Senior String Group (Grade 4+ Standard)
- Junior String Group (Open to All)
- Choir (Open to All)
- Chamber Choir (Audition Only)
- String Quartets (Invitation Only)
- Saxophone Ensemble (Open to All)
- Senior Flute Choir (Grade 4+)
- Flute Choir (Open to All)
- Guitar Ensemble (Open to All)
- Brass Ensemble (Open to All)

Over 300 students participate in Ensembles each week including 130 students regularly attending choir. There are also many student run bands and ensembles which rehearse at breaktimes and lunchtimes.

The music building has 3 large rehearsal spaces (The Music Room, which can seat 300 people, the keyboard room and the multi faith prayer room). There are also 6 practice rooms which are used for both individual lessons and small group rehearsals. Each room has a piano and computer for students to use.

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.

The school hosts 2 main concerts a year; the Winter Concert in December and the Spring Concert in March/April. These concerts showcase the school ensembles as well as soloist and small group performances. Parents and carers as well as the wider school community are invited. Around 200 audience members attend each concert.

Music also plays a key role in school award ceremonies such as Speech Day as well as assemblies.

There is a school musical every 2 years which is run in collaboration with Aston Boy's School and Handsworth Grammar School. The students from the schools are encouraged to audition and the cast and band are made up of students from the 3 schools. Around 60-100 students participate.

There are a number of school trips for music throughout the year. GCSE and A Level Students are given the option to see a live concert each term at Symphony Hall with tickets being provided by the school.

Year 7 all attend a concert in February provided by Services for Education and the CBSO. School covers the cost of tickets and transport to and from Symphony Hall.

Many students take part in out of school music ensembles provided by Services for Education and the CBSO as well as working with other organisations such as Ex Cathedra and local churches.

In the future

Increase the number of students learning instruments from year 7, especially those receiving the Pupil Premium

Increasing the uptake of music qualifications at KS4 and KS5.

Preliminary plans for a music tour in 2025-26.

