

Music development plan summary: The Grange School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	7.07.24
Date this summary will be reviewed	07.07.25
Name of the school music lead	Alison Kirk
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Becky Brown
Name of local music hub	Bucks Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-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.

At KS3 students receive two lessons (55-60 mins) of music teaching every two weeks. Details can be seen on the website and a summary is available below. The planned scheme encompasses similar values to that of the Model Music Curriculum and is tailored to suit the experiences and interests of our students whilst giving them a broad understanding of a wide range of genres, periods and cultures.

Curriculum Maps

Year 7	Unit	Content	Assessment
1	Keyskills	Elements of Music Introduction to Keyboards Italian Terms Singing	Baseline assessment: Listening skills Whole class singing performance
2	Musicians Toolkit	Rhythm and Pitch Notation Reading notation Keyboard Skills Christmas Songs and melodies	Completing notation identification pages Keyboard skills task (performance and notation skills)
3	Pictures at an Exhibition	Instruments of the Orchestra Composing Programme Music Singing	Composition assessment Musical instrument and family identification task (HW)
4	Gamelan	Music of Indonesia Performing from unconventional notation Whole class performance Composing in Gamelan style	Performing from unconventional notation (Whole class) Composing using structures (Group) Listening task (HW – individual)
5	Samba	Exploring rhythms Performing Samba rhythms Keeping in Time Rhythm notation	Rhythmic notation reminder task (HW) Performing from notation (Whole class) Composition (Group)
6	Make a Band 1	Guitar/Ukulele Bass guitar Drum kit Keyboard Rehearsing as a group Performance skills	Instrumental skills (Individual Teacher assessment) Personal practice skills Group performance task (Teacher Assessment)

Year 8	Unit	Content	Assessment
1	Vocal Project	Exploring vocal styles Scat composition Beatboxing and keeping time Notation of beatboxing Rap history Composing a rap	Listening tasks (Individual) Group composition task (Peer assessed) Beatbox and Rap composition (Teacher assessed)
2	Haunted House	Performing Horror Movie themes Minor keys, Tritones and Diminished 7ths Composing using 'scary' techniques Choice of keyboard performance piece	Performance (Teacher assessed) Composition (Peer assessed) Listening task (HW – individual task)
3	African Drumming	Rhythm notation Djembe technique Poly-rhythms Performing from notated rhythms Improvising rhythmic patterns	Whole class performance (self-assessed) Group composition (Teacher assessed) Listening task (HW-Teacher assessed)
4	Music for Animation	Music Technology skills Using Garageband (DAW) Composing to a brief Key terminology	Checklist of tasks (Self-assessed) Composition task (Teacher assessed)
5	Ukulele Skills	Learning to play melodies and chords on the ukulele Group performance skills Vocal performance skills	Performance skills (Self-assessed skills audit) Group performance (Teacher assessed)
6	Make a Band 2	Improved skills learning new songs Adding complexity Using amplification	

Year 9	Unit	Content	Assessment
1	Video Game Music	Exploring music for different genres Discovering techniques used to create mood and atmosphere Performing well known video game melodies Composing music for own video game	Listening Tasks (Self-assessed) Performance task (teacher assessed) Composition task (teacher assessed)
2	MOBO	Exploring Music of Black Origin from 18 th Century to now Listening skills and understanding context Performing The Entertainer by Joplin Performing Reggae	Listening Tasks (Self-assessed) Performance task (teacher assessed)
3	Blues	Understanding 12 bar blues sequence Listening to and appraising songs that use blues Performing 12 bar blues sequence, vamp, walking bass Improvising using the blues scale.	Listening Tasks (Self-assessed) Performance task (teacher assessed) Composition task (teacher assessed)
4	Songwriting	Composing songs Understanding chord relationships Choosing suitable accompaniment for style	Listening Tasks (Self-assessed) Composition task (teacher assessed)
5	Producing	Recording and Producing own songs Understanding mixing Using a DAW to record live audio	Final finished song (teacher assessed)
6	Final Project	Presentation on a Musical Artist of your choice Performance of a piece of music of your choice (solo or group) Composition to a given or free brief	Finished task – final teacher assessment

All planned schemes of work are accessible to students with SEND. Where students have a physical disability adaptations are made on an individual level to allow them to access the full curriculum.

Across the three years of KS3 students will have the opportunity to practise vocal skills and play a variety of instruments, including: Keyboard, Ukulele, Hand-held percussion, African Drums, Guitar, Bass Guitar and Drum Kit.

We currently offer Eduqas GCSE Music and Eduqas Performing Arts Technical Award (Music pathway) in KS4.

Part B: Extra-curricular music

We have various visiting teachers, most from BMT who teach Violin, Piano, Singing, Electric guitar and drum kit. We have one private Classical guitar teacher. All lessons are currently taught one-to-one. BMT will reduce the cost by 50% for students in receipt of PP funding and as a school we typically match the remaining 50%. We have a small stock of orchestral instruments that we loan out free of charge to help students starting their instrumental learning.

Extra-curricular activities are shown in the timetable below and are increasingly well attended with students from every year group involved. We also take part in BMT initiatives such as Bucks Choir of the Year and Bucks Orchestra for All to give our students opportunities to perform with larger groups of musicians and in venues that we would not otherwise be able to perform in, such as the Royal Albert Hall and Birmingham Conservatoire.

We undertake a School Production in collaboration with the Drama department in alternate years. Most recently we performed Shrek (2023) and plans are underway for the production 2025.

We also take part in collaborative rehearsal and performance opportunities with our local feeder primary schools.

Students are encouraged to use our suite of practice rooms for private and small group rehearsal during lunchtimes and after school.

Students are directed to local musical opportunities outside the school setting such as Aylesbury Music Centre, Rare Productions, Hi-Gain and Rock Project as appropriate to their skills and interests. Information about these can be found in the music department.

Extra-curricular Music Clubs 2024-5

Day	Before School 8-8.25	Lunch A (7, 9, 11)	Lunch B (8, 10, 12, 13)	After School From 3pm
Monday	Staff Briefing		Guitar/Ukulele Club	Choir 3-3.45 KS3+
Tuesday	Theory Breakfast			Orchestra 3-3.45 KS3+
Wednesday	Staff Briefing	Guitar/Ukulele Club (7,9,11)		Senior Choir 3-3.45 (KS4, 5+) Mus 1 (including staff) Keyboard Club 3-3.45 Mus 2
Thursday	Staff Briefing	Hit it! (Percussion club)		Tech Crew
Friday			Hit it! (Percussion club)	

Part C: Musical experiences

We put on three main concerts per year; *Concert at Christmas* in December, *Concert with Cake* in the spring and *Summer Showcase* at the end of the academic year. There are also lunchtime concerts, awards evenings and other in-school performances, including Remembrance Day ceremony that take place as part of the school day.

We take performers to be involved in appropriate local concerts, such as the BMT Celebration Concert at the RAH and other more local performance opportunities.

In KS4 students are invited to attend an orchestral concert and to go to an opera each year. Students that are studying Music in KS4 are encouraged to attend but any student with an interest is eligible to join the trip. Tickets for these concerts are often free of charge meaning no student is prevented from attending. Where necessary we cover the cost of transport.

In KS3 we take part in events such as Bucks Choir of the Year where they can hear other local schools performing and in Orchestra for All which gives our instrumentalists an opportunity to play in a large symphony orchestra and in impressive venues such as Birmingham Conservatoire and Cecil Sharp House in London.

In the future

We plan to introduce some more extra-curricular clubs next year, including a percussion group to allow more KS3 students to participate in ensemble performance.

We will be taking part in *Bucks Orchestra for All* provided by BMT with other local non-selective schools combining to rehearse together and take part in a performance.

We will be hosting the inaugural Bucks Primary Choir of the Year competition.

We will take a KS3 trip to a concert or show.

It is our hope that we will be able to offer a KS5 Music course in the near future.