

Music development plan summary: Hurstmere School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mr C Ballard
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Bexley Music
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, 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.

<p>We have and continue to develop our curriculum around the following Musical questions</p> <p>-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can we connect with ourselves and others through individual and shared performances? PERFORMANCE• How can we understand and empathize with human experience and history through the study of musical traditions? PERFORMANCE/LISTENING• How can composers use and manipulate the musical elements to convey meaning? LISTENING/COMPOSING/PERFORMANCE• How can we develop our ability to listen, analyze and deconstruct music into its micro elements? LISTENING

- How can we embrace creativity through composition and improvisation?
COMPOSITION/IMPROVISATION/PERFORMANCE

These core questions are at the heart of every unit of study.

Pupils musical journey at Hurstmere begins in Year 7. Our KS3 curriculum has been designed around the model music curriculum released by the DfE and each unit aims to develop and build upon prior learning so that pupils reach significant points at the end of each year. This interleaved development links across years too. An example might be:

- Keyboard Skills
- Y7 – Intro to Keyboards
- Y8 – Music through the ages -
- Y9 – Pop keyboard – Performing with two hands

We aim to offer our pupils a wide experience with their musical curriculum. In lessons, they will perform on keyboards, ukuleles, samba drums, singing and using bandlab on computers. We also ensure that there is a mixture of both individual performance, paired performance and group performance. Pupils receive 1-hour a week music lesson and typically, each scheme of work last for a half term (6-8 weeks).

Our KS4 curriculum offers two programmes of study, each with a different qualification outcome. Firstly, we offer OCR GCSE Music syllabus which allows pupils to continue exploring their musical studies along the traditional pathway. Their outcomes on this includes critical music analysis through standard notation and aural assessments (40% of their overall evaluation), composing two original pieces (30%), and solo or ensemble performance (30%). These requirements develop practical and analytical skills, forming a foundation for future studies, be it A Level Music or Level 3 Technical Awards at college. We also offer the NCFE Music Technology Level 1/2 course, enhancing pupils' technological and music business knowledge, preparing them for advanced music technology studies or direct entry into the music industry through apprenticeships. We deliver both 5 hours over a two-week timetable.

We aim to deliver our entire curriculum across KS3 and KS4 using high quality inclusive teaching. We remove barriers to learning by embedding the following into our daily practice:

- Dyslexic-friendly resources
- Supporting cognitive overload through:
- Dual coding
- Explicit instruction and modelling (I do, we do, you do)
- Worked examples
- Use of technology – visualisers, computers (daw)

We also systematically check for understanding throughout lesson using mini-whiteboards and questioning.

Part B: Extra-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.

At Hurstmere, we are privileged to have our own music studio and school record label. This is run by our musician-in-residence(s) who are both outstanding professional musicians with extensive industry experience.

StudioFix is integral to our extra-curricular provision at Hurstmere. It allows pupils to write and record their own songs with staff support. This work then culminates with extensive concerts and further performance opportunities across the school. StudioFix is run all day Monday and Tuesday, with pupils enjoying workshops throughout these days.

We open our practice spaces up regularly for our pupils to further develop their performances. This allows pupils to collaborate independently and often leads to pupils forming close musical partnerships.

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.

We pride ourselves on attempting to the musical experiences that we give our pupils. We strive for our concerts to be inclusive and communal rather than elitist and reserved for only those that play musical instruments. With that in mind, every pupil performs in at least one music concert in their Hurstmere career. To realise this, we have a two-day Christmas concert that the entire year 7 sing at with supporting bands. This has now become a yearly tradition.

Alongside this, we also like to give the pupils experience of music in different settings and our annual carol service gives pupils the opportunity to take part in music within a place of worship.

We regularly perform and compete in the Music for Youth competition, and this had allowed past Hurstmere pupils the experience of performing at the Royal Albert Hall on multiple occasions. We have indeed hosted Music for Youth events which brought together other schools within the borough.

We have two large concerts a year which gives pupils an opportunity to share their musical progress and talents with the wider community.

In the future

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

What the school is planning:

- We would like to continue our extensive work on our curriculum. This will take two-fold approach. Firstly, continuing to adjust and amend our current resources to maintain high quality inclusive teaching. Secondly, a complete revamp of content across KS3. We are currently in year 1 of this revamp, focusing on year 7 and building upon this.
- Widen experiences for pupils to include trips to concerts, workshops from external providers.
- Increase extra-curricular provision – we would like to have a wider and more comprehensive extra-curricular package including keyboard clubs, samba bands etc.
- Increase our peripatetic offering to include brass instruments

Further information

N/A