

Music development plan summary: Abbeyfield

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	October 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Katie Peilow
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	David Routledge
Name of local music hub	NMPAT
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	ABRSM Voices

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.

Our curriculum is based around the key areas of singing, playing, improvising, composing and listening. "Curriculum music is, fundamentally, about all students developing their musical understanding. This must be done through creative, practical exploration of sounds and music – we are not talking about passive musical appreciations. But it is about understanding, getting to know how music works, and how it therefore conveys meaning." (Rogers, 2019).

At KS3 all students have one hour of classroom taught music a week with the opportunity to use a variety of instruments such as keyboards, ukuleles and percussion. These instruments are used to explore different styles of music from The Blues to Video Game music and to Music from around the World.

We also use Soundtrap to introduce students to music production and composition skills.

<https://www.abbeyfieldschool.org.uk/page/?title=Music&pid=51>

At KS4 students will study GCSE Music (OCR). This qualification has been chosen in order to develop students skills in performance, composition and music analysis. The course allows students to study a wide variety of musical genres from both the classical and popular canon, as well as focus on the genres that are most relevant to them and their development.

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.

At Abbeyfield we have lots of opportunities for students to learn and practise their instruments outside of the classroom.

We work in partnership with NMPAT (our local music hub) whose staff teach instrumental lessons either individually or to small groups. We offer lessons on a wide variety of instruments from the following: Brass, Woodwind, Strings, Vocals, Piano, Guitar, Drums and Music Production. Nmpat are able to loan instruments to students who are having lessons.

For PP and LAC students Abbeyfield is able to support payment for lessons by paying for 50% of group lessons.

NMPAT also offers financial support to parents: <https://nmpat.co.uk/finance-admin/families/>

Students are able to use the practice rooms at school to rehearse and practise their instruments if this is not possible at home.

Abbeyfield also has a selection of extra-curricular activities for students to take part in: Choir, the Musical Production and Rock School. These happen every week and are a really important way to improve skills as well as getting to know other musicians in the school.

We also take part in the CET Choir and Orchestra which is a fantastic experience for students who are learning instruments or are part of the choir to join with other musicians from CET and to experience working and performing in a large ensemble.

The CET choir is directed by Dr Charles Macdougall who is a renowned professional singer and works with ABRSM Voices. As part of the choir Abbeyfield is represented each year by a singing ambassador who rehearses a piece of Classical music with Mezzo Soprano Camille Maalawy.

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.

At Abbeyfield we have regular performance opportunities for our musicians.

There is a performance in the theatre every term where students can perform solos, in a small ensemble or as part of one of the extra-curricular groups. This begins with our Christmas@Abbeyfield event in December. This year we are also going to include Abbeyfield's Got Talent which will be a really exciting show!

We also have the large Music Production every February which is a fantastic event and we always have sold out crowds! This years show is Sister Act and the cast is working really hard to produce a really exciting show. The cast includes students from year 7 up to year 13.

For each show tickets are available at a subsidised price for students and we offer a family ticket.

The CET Choir and Orchestra perform at Abbeyfield each year which is also broadcast on the CET Youtube channel. Students perform a wide variety of music from Classical to music from around the world to pieces of Popular Music.

All KS4 music students have the opportunity to take part in the Performing Arts London Trip where they can spend a couple of days in London seeing shows on the West End and exploring the sights. This is a very popular and fun event for all involved.

In the future

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

At Abbeyfield we would like to develop our KS5 provision and be able to offer A level music to students.

The music department would like to continue to grow with more students learning to play an instrument and taking part in extra curricular activities, especially SEN students.

Further information (optional)

Link to NMPAT: <https://nmpat.co.uk/>

Link to CET enrichment:

<https://www.creativeeducationtrust.org.uk/enrichment#Secondary>