

Music development plan summary: Barr Beacon School

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2024-25.

Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2025-26.

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	2025-26
Date this summary was published	15/09/25
Date this summary will be reviewed	
Name of the school music lead	Miles Bagshaw
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Rachel Porter
Name of local music hub	Walsall Music Education Hub
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 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.

For more, see the school information guidance on curriculum and on SEND for [maintained schools](#) and for [academies and free schools](#).

Also consider including:

- whether your school music curriculum is informed by the [model music curriculum](#) (March 2021), non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 3 or any other published curriculum guidance.
- a brief summary of the opportunities pupils have to learn to sing or play an instrument during lesson time, such as through whole-class ensemble teaching in some or all year groups.
- information on any partnerships the school has to support curriculum music, such as with your local music hub or other music education organisations. If you are a music hub lead school, you can refer to this here.

Ks3 students at Barr Beacon now receive one hours of Music lessons per week. This is a development from the previous years where pupils were in rotation with other subjects. There is also now a second music classroom that has opened to accommodate for the volume of music lessons this year. Due to the increase time in music, there has been a new scheme of work developed for each year group. Film Music for year 7, Rock and Roll for year 8, and Hamilton for year 9.

Lessons follow the national curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum has also informed the planning of lessons. The music curriculum can be found here: <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/Music.pdf>. Details on SEND provision can be found here: <https://barrbeaconschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/SEND-Report.pdf>.

In lessons pupils have access to keyboard, ukuleles, percussion (including a samba kit), guitars, and we include whole-class singing in our curriculum. Keyboard performance pieces are included in all topics as this allows them to develop skills on

this instrument over a longer period of time. The curriculum also includes whole-class singing, body percussion, composition, and samba percussion ensemble performances. Pupils are encouraged to bring their instrument from home where applicable so we can adapt performance pieces to their instrument.

Pupils learn music from a range of styles including baroque, classical, romantic, film music, video game music, popular music, musical theatre, Rock and Roll and world music styles such as Brazilian samba and music from the Caribbean.

The final topic of Key Stage 3 focuses on solo performance which allows pupils to choose from a selection of pieces to suit their ability level. Pupils are encouraged to learn a piece that is both challenging and attainable. They will monitor their own progress through target setting and reflect upon intermittent performances to refine their pieces. This prepares students for further study BTEC music. Year 9 pupils will also have the opportunity to compose/ record using BandLab as a taster and preparation for Key Stage 4.

Key Stage 4 students take Edexcel BTEC Tech award Level 2 in Music Practice. Students have access to music software and a variety of instruments which enables them to access the course. We have a class set of midi keyboards and audio interfaces which enables pupils to track their own instruments for composition tasks.

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.

Alternative titles for Part B could be 'Extra-curricular music' or 'Music tuition, choirs and ensembles'.

In previous years we offered peripatetic drum and piano lessons. This year we have expanded that to also offer guitar and vocal lessons. Students have the option to complete ABRSM, Rockschool or Trinity grades with their instrumental teachers. Students come out of lessons for 30 minutes a week for their instrumental lessons. We change the lesson times every half term so that students do not miss the same lessons throughout the year. Parents pay for lessons through the school finance system which is then payed to the tutors via the finance team. LAC students are notified of lessons first and encouraged to participate. PP students have their lessons funded for them.

There are two practice spaces next to our music room to enable individual practise or small group rehearsals. We run a music club every Wednesday for 1 hour where the rehearsal space is open for bands to rehearse. We also have a choir that is run every Wednesday morning. During these clubs pupils will rehearse for school events such as

showcases, musical productions, Christmas performances, awards evenings and assemblies.

There is a strong culture of music performance at Barr Beacon that extends beyond the music classroom. We have a Steinway grand piano in the hall where students are encouraged to play to their year group during break and lunch times. The practice rooms are also open to pupils during breaktimes where plausible.

Key Stage 4 students have the option to arrange to use the practice room during break, lunch or afterschool to prepare for BTEC performances or work on compositions. We also run period 6 sessions once a week after school for 50 minutes with a focus on the written and theoretical elements of BTEC music.

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.

Alternative titles for Part C could be 'Musical events' or 'Musical performances'.

Each year we run a production. Last year we did a performance of Matilda where pupils had the opportunity to audition for key parts and develop their skills and confidence throughout the rehearsal process whether that be through singing, dancing or acting.

We run a Key Stage 3 showcase and a Key Stage 4 showcase where students have the opportunity to showcase performances across dance, music and drama at a ticketed event on the school hall stage. This is open to solos and groups. Musicians and choir who attend music club will participate in every show.

There are plans in place to take Y10's to visit a music studio and have some music industry professionals come into school to deliver workshops.

In the future

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

We will plan a trip or a workshop later in the academic year for a select group of year 9 pupils who would be potential candidates to access BTEC music in the forthcoming year.

We would like to plan more workshops and a trip for the year 10 BTEC group to give them a better taste of the working music industry outside of school.

This year we have included BandLab lessons into the curriculum to allow students to have a taste of composing/ recording using a DAW which will link Ks3 learning with the BTEC course.

We aim to make the showcases and performances annual events and build upon the quality of the events.