

Music development plan summary: Uxbridge High School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	10.03.25
Date this summary will be reviewed	Termly from Summer 1 2025
Name of the school music lead	Amy Moore
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Nicola Marsh
Name of local music hub	Hillingdon Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

Part A: Curriculum music

As a school we deliver high-quality provision in curricular music across KS3 and KS4. Our KS3 curriculum has been informed by the Department for Education's *National curriculum: music programmes of study for KS3*. As a school we are proud that our school timetable includes 2 hours of KS3 music over a fortnightly timetable. This allows for the music department to plan half termly schemes of work which give the opportunity for our students to really deepen their knowledge. During lessons we give access to group music making experiences across a range of instruments and voice. The KS3 curriculum is scaffolded so that prior learning is built upon lesson by lesson but also topic by topic, so students not only broaden their skill sets by trying new instruments but also deepen their musical learning and abilities by developing specific skills. Students learn the fundamental music skills required for progression from year 7. All students learn how to read music and develop a working understanding of the key musical elements and devices that are part of the 'building blocks' of music, such as ostinatos/riffs, chords, time signatures, forms and structures. Already at this stage in the sequence, professionally relevant vocabulary is put into direct use within lessons.

Specific topics have been included at KS3 that are built upon at KS4 level, for example 'Defying Gravity' from the album of the cast recording of *Wicked* by Stephen Schwartz and 'Killer Queen' from the album 'Sheer Heart Attack' by Queen. The KS4 curriculum consists of 1 GCSE Edexcel music class (which is graded 1 to 9) [Edexcel GCSE Music \(2016\) | Pearson qualifications](#). And 1 class of Pearson BTEC Level 2 Tech Award in Music Practice [Specification - Pearson BTEC Level 1/Level 2 Tech Award in Music](#)

[Practice 2022](#) Our school timetable curriculum includes 5 hours of KS4 music over a fortnightly timetable for each class. Across the KS4 pathways students engage with performance, composing and appraising but are able to 'specialise' within the realms of the courses on a specific instrument, voice or via performance or production outlets. The KS4 pathways allow for progression to KS5 to carry on and pursue musical learning at a higher level. We currently offer the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Technology (Digital Music Production).

The KS4 curriculum is developed in-line with course requirements, but also so that prior learning is built upon. Planning is adapted on a lesson-by-lesson basis to suit the needs of the learners, and this planning is judged and assessed by the classroom teachers based on learning outcomes. This is discussed with students in lessons.

Link to the visual curriculum can be found here: [download.asp](#)

Part B: Co-curricular music

We have strong links with the Hillingdon Music Service and invite their staff to our school on a regular basis to work with KS3 and KS4 students on instrument and singing lessons. They offer 1:1 instrumental and vocal lessons to our pupils for a charge. Lessons are taught during the school day and are available to anyone wanting to learn. At the moment the following lessons are offered • Singing (any style) • Piano/Keyboard • Drums • Guitar • Bass Guitar

As well as this, staff from the Hillingdon Music Service will be running workshops with our GCSE cohort this year to not only support their academic progress but encourage them to make progress beyond the core curriculum.

Pupils are welcome to join any of our extra-curricular clubs regardless of ability. These clubs run outside of lesson time at the end of the school day. Currently there is a music production club open to year 8. Pupils are welcome to start their own groups, bands and ensembles and are given the space and opportunity to develop as musicians. Outside the classroom pupils are able to rehearse in the following spaces: • Large Rehearsal Room • Practice Room 1, 2, 3 or 4 or the Recording Studio.

Part C: Musical experiences

A series of annual events take place throughout the year, including:

- Winter Music Concert, all years invited to audition, parents invited as audience (December)
- Bucks New University Trip, Recording Studio visit (March)
- Barbican Trip music from West Side Story (March)
- School Musical Auditions and Rehearsals (June)
- Summer Music Concert, all years invited to audition, performance to whole school, also includes staff music performances (July)

All events are free to attend except the school musical which will be ticketed to recover costs. In addition to the calendar of regular events above, we supply music for Sports Days and Open Evenings and are available for other one-off events that may take place throughout the year. All pupils who are regular members of the extra-curricular groups perform in some/all the above.

In the future

Whilst the KS3 curriculum is planned to ensure the progression of skills in each area of performing, composing and appraising, we often find the need to alter content, the way we deliver each unit based on experience from the previous year due to the interests and abilities of the pupils in the cohort. Units may be taught in different orders based on availability of equipment/specialist rooms etc.

We plan to re-introduce visits to more available music concerts and to also offer opportunity to attend live musical theatre.

Further information (optional)