



Music Development Plan



Music Department strengths and successes

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Part A: Curriculum Music

Our curriculum is carefully designed to provide a robust musical education. Students receive one lesson per week at KS3, increasing to three lessons per fortnight in Year 9, and five per fortnight in Years 10 and 11. This structured approach ensures a solid foundation in the early years, with more intensive learning as students advance. We deliver a high-quality, context-based curriculum that covers a wide range of instrumental and vocal skills, allowing students to explore various musical genres and techniques. Additionally, all students in KS3 and KS4 have Focus on Sound accounts, which support their musical development through regular homework and class-based tasks.

Part B: Co-curricular Music

Our program demonstrates strong participation and enthusiasm, with over 70 students taking instrumental lessons from four visiting teachers. We offer weekly vocal group and musical performance club sessions, providing further opportunities for students to engage with music. Our biennial full-scale musical theatre productions, such as the recent “Wizard of Oz,” involve students in all aspects of performance, including lighting, sound, and media. Students are also actively involved in technical roles, learning to program and operate lighting and sound desks in the Hall, and providing technical support for school performances.

Part C: Musical Experiences

We offer regular showcases in our Hall, giving students the chance to perform in front of live audiences. These events are complemented by performances at prestigious venues like Oakengates Theatre and Lichfield Cathedral, providing invaluable stage experience. Our dedicated recording studio and media suite, along with a classroom computer suite equipped with Digital Audio Workstation software like Bandlab, ensure that students have access to the latest technology for music production and learning. We organize regular trips to renowned performance venues such as Symphony Hall and the Rep Theatre, broadening students’ exposure to professional performances. Our collaboration with local community projects, particularly with parish churches and feeder primary schools, strengthens our community ties and provides additional performance opportunities. Music is deeply embedded in the spiritual life of our school, enriching liturgies and other celebrations, highlighting the importance of music in our community and its role in fostering a sense of unity and cultural appreciation.

Music Department areas for development

What is the area to improve?	Why is it important?	What will success look like?	When should this be achieved?	What resources are needed?	Who is responsible?
1) Developing whole school singing	To enhance the quality and effectiveness of collective worship and highlight the importance of singing as a tool for enjoying music and improving musicianship.	All students will confidently sing in lessons and during collective acts of worship.	Ongoing, from September 2024.	Curriculum time and regular worship services and liturgies with live sung worship.	Head of Music and Drama, supported by other staff including the school chaplain.
2) Developing musical ensembles in school	To expand the variety of musical groups by developing pop and rock bands in partnership with the Music Hub.	Students will feel empowered to run their own rehearsals and perform at school events. to perform for school events.	Start date of Feb 2025 (Enrichment semester 2)	Bought-in hours from Telford and Wrekin Music to provide a tutor for coaching students during enrichment time.	Head of Music and Drama, Telford and Wrekin Music service.
3) Develop student confidence in class-based and whole school performance opportunities	To give students the confidence to celebrate their achievements and embrace the art of 'making mistakes well.'	Students will be confident in their performance skills and feel comfortable making mistakes in a supportive environment.	Ongoing, from September 2024.	Curriculum time and rehearsal time for after-school clubs.	Head of Music and Drama.
4) Continuing to develop formative assessment techniques within lessons	To assess students' knowledge and skills immediately, informing questioning and teacher support.	Teachers will be able to make timely interventions based on regular and accurate formative assessments.	Ongoing, from September 2024.	Curriculum time and support from other staff as part of the EFA programme.	Head of Music and Drama, working alongside other school staff.
5) Revise and develop effective curriculum sequencing and structure	To ensure the curriculum is broad and balanced for all students.	Students will acquire the necessary skills to succeed at the next Key Stage.	Ongoing, from September 2024.	Curriculum time, management time, and support from the Music Hub.	Head of Music and Drama, working alongside other school staff and network hubs.