

Music development plan summary: West Exe School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	
Name of the school music lead	Stephanie Perkins
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Gary King
Name of local music hub	Devon Music Education Hub
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.

Our 5 year curriculum is built around the guidance set by national plan for music education and national curriculum.

Curriculum Time:

- KS3
1 hour per week
- KS4
Year 9 – 2 hours per week (4 per fortnight)
Year 10 – 2 hours per week (4 per fortnight)
Year 11 – 2 hours per week (4 per fortnight)

During key stage 3 students will learn to understand key musical concept, instrumental skills on a variety of instruments as well as learning to create their own music. Students will consistently be given opportunities to perform and share their work.

Singing is at the fore front of our KS3 curriculum where students will regularly take part in singing activities to help them become better and more confident singers.

Each topic covered during KS3 will build on prior skills to ensure students are constantly developing, enabling them to become better musicians.

Students at West Exe school begin KS4 in year 9 where they will spend the year exploring different musical styles, whilst continuing to build on their performance and compositional skills. They will also explore different aspects of Music technology and develop an understand to enable them to produce, create and record their own music.

Year 9 topics are developed to build even further on prior knowledge learnt in KS3 but also to develop their musical understanding in preparation for their qualifications both in secondary school but also beyond.

In year 10 – 11, students will complete their BTEC in Music which will consist of them completing 3 components of coursework. At West Exe School our students complete the BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice (Pearson)

Part B: Music Tuition, Choirs and Ensembles

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.

Our school provides 1:1 instrumental tuition which is run through Music Devon. Students will attend either a 20 or 30 minute lesson on their chosen instrument with a teacher specialised on that instrument.

We also provide group sessions which are run weekly by Rocksteady, Students will attend a 30 minute session where they develop their individual instrumental skills but also get the opportunity to play in an enable. These students will also perform in a concert each term to showcase what they have been working on.

All students are given the opportunity to attend after school clubs which include our school choir and Jazz Band. Both of which consistently perform in school concerts twice a year as well as other events throughout the year.

Students are given the opportunity to complete grade exams on individual instruments if attending 1:1 lessons with an instrumental teacher. These lessons are booked by parents through Music Devon but the school does provide a small number of full/partially funded instrumental lessons and Rocksteady sessions for students who are PP. These lessons are either funded by the school or through grants provided by our local Music Education Hub.

Our school also works closely with our local Music Education Hub to provide additional music workshops for our students by visiting teachers when available, as well as taking part in linked school events.

All students are provided with rehearsal spaces that can be used during break and lunch times, as well as before and after school. Our school is equip with 5 small practice rooms and two classrooms that students have access to and a rang of instruments that they can use.

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.

Daily assemblies start with Music which is provided by different students and groups performing to all year groups.

Our school also hosts two concerts per academic year which students take part in, as well as a school production which takes place every year and is part of the school's elective programme.

Nearly all school events have music at the forefront with students given performance opportunities for any school celebration, assemblies, graduations, opening evenings and option evenings.

Students in KS4 get the opportunity to attend a trip organised over one weekend where we travel to somewhere in the UK to watch a musical performance. This is normal to watch a West End Show.

Due to our close working relationship with the local music education hub and feeder primary schools, students are often invited to attend local events to perform. These include performing at local primary school fetes of events such as the Devon County Show.

In the future

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

In the future we plan to improve the following areas;

- Technology offer to all students by ensuring our students are provided access to work areas which enable students to explore and learn how to use a variety of different music technologies.
- Increase our extra-curricular opportunity by adding additional music clubs that students can attend after school.
- Organise a workshop for at least one KS3 year group to take part in with the view to roll this out to both year groups the following academic year (2025-2026)
- Create transition links with our feeder primary schools to build a culture of music before students transition to our school.
- Improve our instruments on offer by updating or fixing broke equipment to ensure music resources are readily available and functioning.

Further information (optional)

Devon Music Education Hub – Working link – Providing our school with MEG funding, instrumental tuition bursaries, Whole class instrumental hiring, as well as additional performance and workshop opportunities

<https://www.musiceducationhub.org/site/>

Music Devon – Working link – Providing students and parents the opportunity to sign up for 1:1 private instrumental tuition.

<http://www.musicdevon.com/>

Rocksteady – Working link – Provide group ensembles sessions to our students which are funding by parents, the school or Rocksteady themselves.

<https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>