

# Music development plan summary: Longfield Academy

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	August 2024
Name of the school music lead	Claire Evans
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Rhiannon Pike
Name of local music hub	Kent Music, Music Mark
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rowhill School

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 school website offers a brief outline of our music curriculum. Our curriculum offers music for 1 hour per week at KS3 with Music as an option subject at GCSE. We teach music with an inclusive approach supporting the needs of all students including those with disabilities.

We have consulted the model music curriculum. We are teaching a range of musical styles from a range of periods in history. The listed repertoire is useful and we use examples from this as well as our own choices in similar musical styles.

In year 7 students learn a range of instruments including keyboard, ukulele and percussion. They play in pairs, small groups and whole class ensembles. Alongside this some students opt for individual lessons taught within school time and through years 8 and 9 skills are developed on either the classroom instruments or individual instruments and the format becomes “workshop style” lessons in year 9 allowing students who have instrumental lessons to bring their experience into the classroom.

Students sing in year 7 and for some of year 8 and we plan to develop our curriculum further to promote a singing culture through the year groups.

We work in partnership with Kent Music Hub and Music Mark. We also have our own partnership with Rowhill School (a local school which specialises in behaviour, learning, emotional & social development needs). Kent Music and Music Mark offer training opportunities which promote the sharing of good practise as well as offering services like the provision of instrumental lessons and local ensembles that can be attended by our students if they wish to join. Students have the opportunity to be entered for Graded exams throughout KS3 via their instrumental teachers in school. They take GCSE Music in KS4 and Performing Arts BTEC Technical Award level 3. We also offer the Arts Award which suits students that regularly perform in our productions and concerts. This can easily be taken alongside their timetabled subjects. This is done in partnership with Rowhill School.

## **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.

Due to the plethora of activities that are offered in music, we have been awarded the Music Mark, supported by ABRSM.

We offer music tuition in the following instruments:

- Voice
- Piano
- Woodwind
- Guitar
- Bass
- Drums
- Violin (with ensemble groups funded by Kent Music)

Instruments are available to be on loan to students from Kent Music.

Lessons are paid for by students, unless they are Children in Care in which case there is funding available. We are able to bid for Academy funding to cover Free School Meal students who want peripatetic lessons.

### **Clubs.**

We have a Vocal Workshop - our school choir - who perform at a number of events across the academic year and have performed as part of Voice in a Million. The Vocal Workshop is free and open to all year groups, and is run by a singing teacher with funding from Kent Music.

We have a school band club, and we are soon to start up a lower-school band for specifically KS3 students. This is free for students to attend and is run by academy staff.

It is our intention to develop a tech club looking at the technical aspects of music. This is free and gives students experience with music technology, including live sound recordings.

Out of tech club and curriculum time, some students are carefully selected to assist our sound technician in school shows and concerts.

As part of their music education, we organise several Informal Concerts throughout the year in which students who are having peripatetic lessons, or who are keen to be involved in music, can perform. As part of the Post 16 provision, year 12 Performing Arts students also organise a Charity Concert in the Autumn term, raising money for a charity of their choice, in which these students can also perform. This is free to join and open to all year groups.

Students can also join in in the various school shows: a full-scale pantomime in December, and a full-scale musical in July. Students have the option of performing on stage or playing in the school band. This is free to join and open to all year groups.

The practice rooms are available most break and lunchtimes for students to rehearse under staff supervision, and often this is used to prepare for one of the many concerts that are performed throughout the year.

## 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.

The musical experiences we have planned for the coming year are:

**Two - Three “informal” concerts per year** (*students of all abilities perform solos, duets, smaller and larger ensembles in a concert to parents/friends to showcase the work that they do during instrumental lessons and ensembles on a weekly basis*)

**Voice in A Million** (*A yearly charity event that we and other schools take part in, where students sing and watch others perform at Wembley Arena*)

**3 x open evenings** (*This gives our singers, ensembles and tech students the opportunity to showcase their talents while parents are viewing the school. Students not only perform but they answer questions about the department*)

**Celebration of Achievement evening** (*music students perform in their small and larger group ensembles that rehearse weekly throughout the year; and drama students showcase a sung scene from the summer musical*)

**Post 16 Performing Arts Unit 4 performance** *(this is a unit of work that shows combined arts skills, from playing and instrument, acting, singing, set design, costume design, directing and many more. Students perform this yearly to friends, parents and GCSE students. Previous productions have included Animal Farm and Songs for a New World)*

**In partnership with the drama department:**

**Christmas Panto** *(this give singers the opportunity to perform in the production and students to play in the band)*

**Summer Musical** *(this give singers the opportunity to perform in the production and students to play in the band)*

After experiencing Voice in A Million, we would like to give students further opportunities to perform outside of school. For example, in the past our vocal workshop has performed in a local residential home which was an enriching experience for all concerned.

Students from all year groups take part in these events from Year 7 through to Year 13. All events that aren't external trips are free for students to participate in.

We make students aware of ensembles run by Kent Music and some attend these groups. In particular, we advise students who wish to play brass instruments to have lessons with Kent Music as currently we do not have provision. Information is given to parents regarding this.

## In the future

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

What we are continuing to offer:

- We provide timetabled curriculum music of one hour each week of the school year for key stage 3, and offer GCSE Music to Ks4, and Level 3 performing arts at KS5.
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- at least 2 full-scale productions a year, at least 2 Informal Concerts, performance opportunities at open evening and celebration evening, and other events throughout the academic year
- vocal workshop
- band club
- access to practice rooms for rehearsals and individual practice
- Annual attendance to Voice in a Million

In the future, we plan to offer:

- lower-school band club
- Music Tech club
- Access to a live performance for all KS3 students at least once a year
- Introduction of other instruments available for tuition
- Further opportunities to perform outside of school at least twice a year
- Increased student participation in the school band for the school pantomime and the Summer musical.