

# Music development plan summary: *Armfield Academy*

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miss G. Collins (Secondary) Mr B. Wainwright (Primary)
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Miss L. Parkinson Mr T. Rosebury (Primary)
Name of local music hub	Lancashire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Blackpool Music Service

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.

In Primary all students study music for 1 hour per week. The curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum and developed by the curriculum manager to ensure student engagement and opportunities for students to succeed and reach their full potential.

During lesson time, students have the opportunity to learn to play, compose, improvise and sing as part of a group, ensemble, choir or as a soloist. All staff can access Charanga (supplementary music scheme) to develop their skills as a singer.

Students learn about a range of genres, contexts and features of music. All students learn music appreciation and understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated.

Students take part and perform in musical concerts, productions and external performance events.

In year 7 and 8 students study music for 1 hour a week. In year 9 students study Performing Arts in preparation for the KS4 BTEC Performing Arts course which we offer. The curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum and developed to ensure student engagement and opportunities for students to succeed. During lesson time, students have the opportunity to learn to play keyboard, ukulele, sing as part of a group or as a soloist, and develop their skills on the DAW, YuStudio from Charanga.

Music is offered as an option for study at KS4 and follows the Eduqas syllabus. If opted for at GCSE students have music 3 hours a week in line with their other subject choices.

The music department follows the SEND policy for the whole school which can be found [here](#). However, we assess the individual needs of students within our department and adjust these access supports as necessary to allow all students equitable access to our music curriculum.

## 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.

We offer instrumental lessons on piano, voice, guitar and drums through Blackpool Music Service. These are on a one-to-one or paired basis and are 20 minutes a week. At Armfield Academy, we believe that every student should have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. To support this, we subsidise the cost of instrumental lessons, making them more affordable for all families at £60 a term. They are delivered in specialist practice rooms where suitable equipment is available for students to use.

An extra-curricular programme is offered where students can participate in the secondary school's combined key stage choir and our musical theatre club. These clubs are run by specialist teachers within the performing arts department and take place after school. They are free for students to join and all students are welcome. We also have a vocal harmony group aimed at our KS4 vocalists in order to give them an opportunity to develop their ensemble skills.

There are 2 practice rooms within the department which are available for students to use at lunch time for private practice.

## 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.

As part of our enriching music curriculum offer in primary, we are creating a culture of performance. Giving every student the opportunity to experience music in their school life. Working alongside Blackpool Music Service and more broadly, Lancashire Music Service, the children can take part in 'School's Alive' and 'Sing up!' at Blackpool Tower Ballroom and Blackpool Winter Gardens. Being part of the music service, we have specialist workshops and experiences for our children to take part in.

As part of our culture of performance, we encourage trips to see live performances. As part of our offer, our school will go to the pantomime as well as other relevant musical events throughout the school year.

More locally, our primary school choir reaches out to local groups and centres to provide music in the community, particularly at christmas and easter.

In secondary we currently have 2 main performance opportunities within the school year for students. The first is our autumn showcase 'Beyond the Limelights' this provides an opportunity for all extra-curricular clubs to perform, as well as giving students the chance to audition with an act to be within the show. Our second performance opportunity is the school musical production that takes place in the summer term. All students who attend the auditions are guaranteed to be part of the show, with auditions taking place to cast named roles. Students of all years are encouraged to participate in both events. Both students and parents are invited to attend the shows as audience members, tickets are available to them through MCAS. The department also participates in the Celebration of Music held at the Winter Gardens.

## In the future

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

We will continue to work on creating a robust key stage 3 curriculum that will develop students with the skills needed for this. We hope that all of key stage 3 have access to an hour of music a week in the future.

As a growing school we are eager to create termly opportunities for students to perform. We will work with our local music service to seek out additional opportunities for our students.

Within the secondary performing arts department we aim to provide students with the opportunity to attend a residential theatre trip in the future.

We hope to have a school brass band in the future, through recruitment of more students for instrumental lessons.

In the classroom we hope to increase our use of technology through investment in midi equipment to make online DAWs more accessible to students.

The curriculum manager, alongside the music lead, will continue to develop the music curriculum to ensure we produce high quality musicians, and a deeper love of music within our children.

Teachers will continue to engage with high quality music CPD ensuring subject knowledge is high quality such as Lancashire Music Conference for both primary and secondary.

## Further information

Blackpool Music Service - <https://blackpoolmusicservice.co.uk/>

Lancashire Music Hub - <https://www.lancashiremusichub.co.uk/site/>