

Music development plan summary:

Balshaw's Church of England High School

Overview

| Detail | Information |
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| Academic year that this summary covers | 2024-25 |
| Date this summary was published | 18/11/2024 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed and formally published | December 2024 |
| Name of the school music lead | L Bache |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | L Bache / S Thomasson |
| Name of local music hub | Lancashire Music Service |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | |

The document below outlines the Music development plan for Balshaw's for the academic year 2024-2025. This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across curricular and extra-curricular music. This information is to help students and parents and carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our students' musical education across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in future years.

We hope you enjoy reading this music development plan, and should you have any further questions, please contact the school. We are proud of our music team whose aim is for our students to build a life-long-love of music, whatever that might look like in the future.

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.

The Music Department at Balshaw's Church of England High School is committed to developing the musical knowledge and skills of all our students through both our curricular and extra-curricular programmes. It is our intention to develop their knowledge of the musical language so that they can perform with a degree of self-confidence, both to and with each other, within and beyond the classroom; they can compose in a variety of styles using both music technology and 'live' instruments for an intended occasion; and they are able to appreciate, describe, and understand music from a variety of genres. In addition, we endeavour to foster curiosity, tolerance, and intrigue through learning about music from other cultures and providing opportunities for students to experience this first-hand through visiting artists/professionals from within our local and wider communities. The Music Department works in collaboration with visiting peripatetic music staff, the Lancashire Music Hub. We encourage links with our local Primary schools providing performance opportunities at school concerts.

As such, our Music curriculum has been designed to allow all students to develop their knowledge of the musical language so that they are able to perform, compose and appraise music in equal measure. Year 7 students join our school from many different primary schools each year and all have very different experiences dependent on their unique family and school settings. As a department we ensure all students are allowed to develop their skills from their starting points so that they would be able to be successful at KS4 and beyond should they wish to pursue their formal music education.

All students in year 7 have 1 hour of music per week and one hour every other week in years 8 and 9, taught by subject specialists. The Music curriculum meets and exceeds the ambition of the National Curriculum, is informed by the Model Music Curriculum and is carefully planned to ensure all students have the fundamental musical knowledge in order to develop their skills in performance, composition and listening and appraising. The schemes of learning are designed so that students are able to revisit, consolidate and develop their musical knowledge and subsequently apply this in the three commonly recognised skills areas. Teachers provide tailored support and challenge within lessons to ensure all, including those with SEND, are able to make musical progress. This could be through adapted instruments, music or support as required.

In classroom music lessons at KS3, students have the opportunity to develop their ability to sing, play the keyboard and ukulele as well as use music technology. We ensure that all assessments are musical and that staff provide verbal feedback accompanied by modelling, where appropriate, to promote musical progression.

Students can opt to take BTEC Music in Y10 and 11 and have 5 hours per fortnight again taught by subject specialists.

Further details on our curriculum offer can be found here:

<https://www.balshaws.org.uk/curriculum/music>

In addition, all students are able to access music tuition. Those students eligible for Pupil Premium receive tuition in a discipline free of charge. Students can opt to take Graded Music Examinations supported by their peripatetic tutor.

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.

All students have the opportunity to take up instrumental and vocal tuition provided by one of our visiting peripatetic staff. Students can have tuition in:

- Woodwind
- Brass
- Drum kit
- Keyboard
- Piano
- Guitar
- Ukulele
- Singing

Students who are allocated Pupil Premium funding can have tuition in one discipline free of charge. For students, where owning an instrument is a problem, instruments are loaned (where available) free of charge. Lessons are provided by staff from the Lancashire Music Service or by our own experienced peripatetic staff.

Students are able to join an array of extra-curricular music activities including:

- Junior choir
- Chamber choir
- Rock Band

Rehearsal space is available in our suite of practice rooms.

Large scale concerts or musical productions are organised each year. These include Christmas Concerts, Easter worship, School productions, #Balfest.

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.

When a music event or trip is open to parents or carers to attend, an online communication will be sent via SchoolSynergy. The communication will detail whether an event or trip is ticketed, seated or just a 'turn up' occasion. It will also explain if an event or a trip is free of charge or includes a fee and how to pay (usually via ParentPay). Pupil Premium students may be supported through discounts or fully funded places on trips.

Half term 1:

Blood Brothers musical theatre trip KS3 & 4

Open evening – rendition of the school production. Music room open mic.

Year 7 – singing assembly. Piece of music performed by year 7 in the assembly.

Half term 2:

Remembrance service

Year 11 Awards morning – singing performance.

Speech night – singing performances and musical accompaniment.

Opportunities to see live Theatre performances across KS3 and KS4

Memorial garden service

Musical performance at St Andrews Christmas Fayre

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang musical theatre trip – Year 7

Carol concerts – whole school

Twelve days of Christmas Year 7 & 8

Half term 3:

Choir to perform at The Holocaust Memorial Service as invited by the South Ribble Council.

Blood Brothers workshop (Stage-Ed)

Halle Orchestra trip for KS3 and KS4 music students

Resurrection Rock – Easter concert in Church for Year 7

Workshops with industry professionals - previous examples include Samba workshop (Sambafriq), music technology workshop, Tim Roberts (musical theatre actor)

Half term 4:

Balfest – variety of musical performances from students across KS3 and KS4 and an opportunity to see artists from the local area.

Half term 5:

Bi-annual whole school musical production (previous shows include Oliver, Matilda and We Will Rock You)

Summer concert KS3 and KS4

**Opportunities throughout the year to see professional and semi-professional musical productions when they arise.

Participation numbers to be added at the end of the academic year.

In the future

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

These are the key features stated in the National Plan for Music:

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

We continually build on and develop our music plan each academic year. We will continue to maintain our high-quality music provision, for example increasing the amount of curriculum time at KS3 to be one hour per week in Years 8 and 9.

We look to re-introduce the school brass band: Balshaw's Brass.

We will consider offering GCSE Music as well as BTEC Music.

We will continue to provide opportunities for students to perform.

Further information (optional)

Use this space to provide any further information about your school's music development plan, including links to your local music hub partners, other local music education organisations and contacts.

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

LCEP: <https://prestoncreativeexchange.wordpress.com/>