

OVERVIEW

DETAIL	INFORMATION
Academic year that this summary covers	Sept 2025 – Sept 2026
Date this summary was published	Sept 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	Sept 2026
Name of the academy music lead	Mr A Keeley
Name of academy leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Miss R Stephenson
Name of local music hub	Private Peripatetic Tuition
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

This is a summary of how our academy 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 academy 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.

At Key Stage 3, pupils at Hollingworth Academy receive one hour of classroom music per week and study three units of work across the academic year. Each unit includes an assessment in performance, composition, or listening, with pupils working either as part of an ensemble or as soloists depending on the focus. Teacher feedback is central to the process, enabling pupils to reflect, act upon advice, and make clear progress by closing the gap in their work. Throughout KS3, pupils develop their understanding of the elements of music, using these as the foundation for performance, composition, and listening tasks.

The curriculum is designed to provide a broad and culturally diverse experience. Pupils study a wide range of musical styles and traditions from across the world, which builds both their appreciation of different cultures and their understanding of music in context. They have the chance to learn a variety of instruments in class, djembe drumming, small

percussion, marimbas, keyboards, ukuleles with a particular emphasis on singing. Alongside practical skills, pupils also engage with industry-standard music technology using Apple iMacs, allowing them to compose and perform using digital tools and music production software.

At Key Stage 4, pupils can opt to study AQA GCSE Music, taught through three lessons each week. The course explores music from a wide range of genres and historical periods, from the Baroque era through to contemporary and traditional music from around the world. Lessons combine listening and appraising with practical application, ensuring pupils can demonstrate their knowledge through both composition and performance. Solo and ensemble performance remains central, providing pupils with opportunities to apply musical features and techniques with increasing confidence and independence.

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 a broad programme of extra-curricular activities to support pupils' musical development. These include a Vocal Group, Rock Band, Brass Group and Keyboard Club, all of which provide opportunities for pupils to collaborate, rehearse and perform in different styles and settings.

Our team of in-house peripatetic musicians deliver specialist instrumental and vocal tuition across a wide range of disciplines, including brass, piano, woodwind, drums and vocals. Peripatetic lessons are free to pupils, but the expectation is that they join an extracurricular music club. To support access and participation, instruments are available to loan for some music lessons, ensuring that all pupils have the opportunity to take part regardless of their circumstances.

Through this diverse range of experiences, The Hollingworth Music Department aims to ensure that every pupil has the opportunity to develop their musical skills, discover new interests, and take pride in their achievements.

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.

At Hollingworth Academy, we are committed to providing our pupils with a wide variety of enriching musical experiences, both within and beyond the classroom. These

opportunities are designed to inspire creativity, broaden cultural understanding, and foster a lifelong enjoyment of music.

We offer regular trips to professional performances, including visits to Bridgewater Hall to watch the world-renowned Hallé Orchestra, giving pupils the chance to experience live orchestral music at the highest level. In addition, pupils attend productions at Manchester Palace Theatre, where they can enjoy large-scale musicals and gain a deeper appreciation of live theatre. These experiences enhance classroom learning by exposing pupils to professional standards of performance and a wide range of musical styles.

Within academy, we celebrate the achievements of our pupils through our annual Summer Performing Arts Showcase, which is open to all year groups. This event provides a platform for pupils to perform to an audience, building confidence, teamwork and performance skills across music, drama and dance.

IN THE FUTURE

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

The Music Department at Hollingworth Academy is committed to building upon its strong foundations and further developing opportunities for pupils to engage with music both within academy and in the wider community.

A key priority is to increase participation in extra-curricular activities by encouraging more pupils to attend after-school ensembles and clubs. By promoting the benefits of collective music making, we aim to strengthen the sense of community, teamwork and belonging that music can provide.

We also plan to extend performance opportunities beyond the academy gates, ensuring that pupils can share their musical achievements more widely. This will include public concerts, collaborations with local organisations, and participation in community events, giving pupils valuable experience of performing in professional and community settings.

Another important development will be the staging of a full-scale academy musical production. This will involve pupils from across the academy and provide a platform for singers, instrumentalists, actors, dancers and technical crew to showcase their talents in a collaborative and high-profile project.

In addition, we aim to raise funds to equip the academy recording studio with state of the art, industry-standard technology. This will provide pupils with hands-on experience of professional recording and production, enabling them to develop practical skills in music technology that are relevant to future study and employment in the creative industries.

Through these developments, The Hollingworth Academy Music Department will continue to enhance its provision, broaden access to music making, and inspire pupils to fulfil their potential as musicians and as confident, creative young people.

FURTHER INFORMATION (OPTIONAL)

Rochdale offers a wide range of opportunities for young people and families to engage with music beyond academy. The Rochdale Music Service, based in the town centre, provides instrumental and vocal tuition, music theory, and aural training. It also runs choirs, ensembles, and bands, giving pupils the chance to perform in a variety of settings. Lessons can take place at participating academy's or at the service's base, and instruments may be available to loan.

As part of the Greater Manchester Music Hub, Rochdale is connected to a wider network that works to ensure all children and young people can access high quality music education. The hub supports schools and families by offering inclusive opportunities, regional ensembles, and events that celebrate and extend musical learning beyond the classroom. This creates clear progression routes for pupils who wish to develop their musical skills to a higher level.