

Music Development Plan Summary:

Spa School Camberwell

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Lauren Cairns
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Steph Lea
Name of local music hub	Southwark Music Services
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Southwark Music Services

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.

Music is an integral part of life at Spa School and all pupils have regular opportunities to participate in musical activities and learning. The curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum and highly adapted to cater specifically to our pupils needs. Pupils learn the interrelated music skills through topic-based lessons. The lessons are practical-based and include opportunities to learn instruments and regularly perform. The integral nature of music in our school creates an engaging, happy and supportive environment for our pupils at all ages encouraging our pupils to grow, learn and thrive at every level whilst preparing them for the future.

KS1 – KS4 each class has 1x45 minute music lesson timetabled per week. This is taught by either their class teacher, assistant headteacher or music specialist. In reception, pupils have 5x15 minute music and singing lessons per week with their class teacher.

In KS1, music is taught through play and song. Students sing, create and compose through musical exploration. It is embedded through weekly music lessons as well as classroom activities and The Happiness Project. The dimensions of music are explicitly taught through our weekly music lessons where our pupils have the opportunity to learn to play instruments, use body percussion and musical movement.

In KS2, pupils build on prior knowledge to learn to play instruments from the different instrument groups. They also learn to compose and read music using different forms of musical notation and start to link these to the instruments they play. Pupils' musical journeys broaden, and they begin to experience music from a wider range of genres, styles and countries. As well as weekly music lessons, and the Happiness Project we have a range of workshops and visitors who work with our pupils in KS2.

In secondary, students develop their technique on different instruments and learn how the elements of music are applied in various genres. Students begin to learn about ensembles and the importance of playing together as a group. Our pupils have opportunities to learn music technology through websites and Apps in order to compose and create. They are encouraged to take on a more leading role and begin to analyse music to a deeper level sharing their personal views and comprehending its parts. Students in KS3 and KS4 participate in weekly music lessons as well as the opportunity to join Singing club for Special Interests. Pupils in KS4 have the opportunity to gain ASDAN qualifications.

Our curriculum is written by our music curriculum lead Lauren Cairns, who is a music specialist. We subscribe to Charanga for curriculum support and regularly partner with Southwark Music Hub for additional guidance.

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.

Pupils in primary are offered the opportunity to participate in weekly music-based sessions called 'Happiness Project'. The school regularly partners with Southwark Music Services to deliver sensory music projects to KS2 pupils.

In secondary, students are offered the opportunity to join singing club once a week, this is part of our Special Interest offer. The school regularly partners with Southwark Music Services to deliver guitar sessions and/or music technology for pupils who have shown interest in developing their instrumental and tech knowledge. This concludes with a performance to peers and staff.

In the summer term, pupils throughout the whole school learn to sing and sign a song that is performed at the annual Summer Carnival in front of parents and our school community.

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 Spa School Camberwell we provide regular music experiences to all pupils. These include

- Sing and Sign – Whole School performance by students for parents, this is free for parents to view.
- Instrumental performances by KS3 and 4 classes in front of the rest of secondary school.
- Annual Professional Pantomime- All students and their families were offered tickets to watch a Pantomime.
- Performance at assemblies, some secondary pupils have showcased their knowledge by performing at assemblies in front of staff and peers.
- Sensory Music Sessions: Students in Key stage 2 have had access to sensory music sessions delivered in partnership with Southwark Music Services. This was at no cost to the school.
- Specialist Music Workshops hosted by Southwark Music Service and Steel Pan Agency

In the future

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

We appreciate the impact that music making has on child development and the employment opportunities it can lead to. We are committed to providing a broad, high quality music curriculum and regularly update our music offer to ensure this is achieved. For the academic year 26-27 we have identified the following actions:

- Early Years Music lessons to be more closely based on the Orff Approach
- More access to music workshops delivered by professional musicians
- Annual training for teachers on the importance of music in child development and how to deliver high-quality lessons