



Music Development Plan

St Edmund Arrowsmith Catholic High School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mr. P Masheder
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Ms. A Morgan
Name of local music hub	Wigan Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-curricular provision and musical events– 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.

Curriculum music lessons during the academic year:

Year 7 – 1 x 60-minute lesson each week

Year 8 – 3 x 60-minute lessons per fortnight

Year 9 – 1 x 60-minute lesson each week

Year 10 & 11 GCSE Music – 5 x 60-minute lessons per fortnight

Opportunities to play musical instruments:

Year 7: singing, glockenspiel, percussion instruments, keyboards

Year 8: singing, glockenspiel, keyboards, guitar, bass, drum kit

Year 9: singing, keyboards, guitar, bass, drum kit

Qualifications:

GCSE Music (Eduqas)

Technical Award in Music Technology Level 1/2 (NCFE)

Individual graded exams on a variety of instruments (strings, brass, piano, guitar, bass, drum kit, percussion, singing) through instrumental tuition in school.

Part B: Extra-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.

Individual instrumental and singing lessons offered:

- Piano / keyboard
- Guitar / Bass
- Strings
- Brass
- Singing
- Percussion / drum kit

These instrumental lessons are individual 15-minute lessons and currently cost £8.50 per lesson.

Ensembles:

- Year 7 choir (*open to all Y7 pupils*)
- Senior choir (*open to all Y8-Y11 pupils*)
- Concert Band (*open to all pupils above grade 1 on their instrument*)

These are all free to join, are a great way of meeting like-minded pupils with similar interests and having fun!

Other musical activities:

- Year 9 Music Enrichment Programme (*November*)

This is an opportunity for pupils to broaden their musical experience, develop their own specialism and collaborate with other pupils of a similar calibre.

- School Production (*May – October*)

This is an opportunity for pupils to get involved in the annual school show. Casting takes place each May and rehearsals run right through to the show in October. Pupils can be part of the cast (singing / acting / dancing) or be part of the live band.

- Use of Music Practice Rooms during unstructured times

Pupils can apply for a Music Pass to give them access to practice rooms before school (from 8am), at breaktime and at lunchtime. Pupils can work individually or collaborate with other pupils on their own musical projects. Pupils can also use the keyboard room or Music ICT suite which has Cubase Elements 12 on each computer.

Part C: Musical Events

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.

Musical Performances:

- **School Production (October)**

Casting takes place in May and rehearsals run through to October. Pupils can get involved in a whole range of ways from acting, singing, dancing, playing in the live band, costume, set design, lighting & sound. Previous productions that have taken place include Little Shop of Horrors (2022), Matilda (2023), Mary Poppins (2024).

- **Certificate Evening (November)**

An opportunity for pupils in the Year 7 and/or Senior Choir to perform to the previous year 11s as they come to this prestigious event to collect their GCSE certificates.

- **SJR CAFOD Carol Service (December)**

In conjunction with St John Rigby College, pupils in our choirs perform with pupils from other Catholic High Schools across Wigan and West Lancs, alongside the sixth formers from SJR College.

- **Christmas Carol Service (December)**

Year 7 Choir, Senior Choir and Concert Band all lead this event with individual and joint performances from the choirs, and the Concert Band playing all the congregational carols for the congregation to sing along to.

- **Music Festival (March)**

This is an excellent performance opportunity for pupils to showcase their individual talents in a concert setting and to celebrate the success of some of our instrumentalists and singers.

- **St Peter & Paul Mass (June)**

An opportunity for a small group of singers and a live band to lead all the music during this whole school mass.

- **Summer Showcase (June)**

Year 7 Choir, Senior Choir and Concert Band all perform at this summer concert which is an amalgamation with dance and drama.

- **Wigan Youth SongFest (July)**

Year 7 and Senior Choir perform at this event run by Wigan Music Service. Choirs from other high schools also perform individually and as a mass choir altogether.

- **Music Tour to London's West End (September 2025)**

A rewards trip for any pupils involved in musical activity within the department. This is a residential trip to take 45 pupils to watch the Lion King on the West End, along with a Thames Cruise and some sightseeing opportunities.

In the future

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

- **Music Tour Abroad**

We are hoping to put on a music tour abroad as we have done in previous years (pre-COVID) with music tours to Barcelona having taken place in 2012, 2015 and 2018.