

Music development plan summary: *Silverdale School*

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	24-25
Date this summary was published	18 th July 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	1 st July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miss Claire Durham
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr David Jones
Name of local music hub	Sheffield Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Elegance Music, Creative DJ School

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.

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As a school we deliver high-quality provision in curricular music across KS3 and KS4. Our KS3 curriculum has been revised to ensure to include the key features of the [national plan for music education](#). Our school music curriculum is also informed by the [model music curriculum](#) (March 2021), which is a piece of non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 3. As a school we are proud that our school timetable curriculum includes 2 hours of KS3 music over a fortnightly timetable. This allows for the music department to plan 6, 7 or 8 week Schemes of Work (SOWs), depending on the half term. During lessons we give access to group music making experiences across a range of instruments, and voice. This includes whole class keyboard, ukulele and African drumming embedded into appropriate schemes of work

at appropriate stages of KS3, and band work using keyboards, guitars, voice, drumkit and ukulele in Y8 and 9. The KS3 curriculum is scaffolded so that prior learning is built upon lesson by lesson but also topic by topic, so students not only broaden their skill sets by trying new instruments but also deepen their musical learning and abilities by developing specific skills. Specific topics have been included at KS3 that are built upon at KS4 level, for example Film Music and Popular Music are both studied at KS4 level, which is introduced at KS3. The Y9 Band Project links to ensemble performance which links heavily to GCSE Music. KS3 Homework is occasional and normally half termly. Homework is usually linked to knowledge quizzes.

Our KS4 Music curriculum consists of Eduqas GCSE Music (which is graded 1 to 9) The specification can be found [here](#).

Our school timetable curriculum includes 6 hours of KS4 music over a fortnightly timetable. This allows for the music department to plan for GCSE as it covers the recommended guided hours to run the course.

Across GCSE Music students engage with performance, composition and Listening and Appraising. This course allows for progression to KS5 to carry on and pursue musical learning at a higher level at both vocational level 3 and A level. The KS4 curriculum is developed in-line with course requirements, but also so that prior learning is built upon. Planning is adapted on a lesson-by-lesson basis to suit the needs of the learners and this planning is judged and assessed by the classroom teachers based on learning outcomes. This is discussed with students in lessons. Homework is weekly and is set using Google Classroom although most KS4 homework is based on a coursework requirements and usually as extended projects.

Please [click](#) to view our KS3 and KS4 curriculum overview published on the school website which details specific schemes of learning and example repertoire per scheme. Many of our students pursue graded exams on their instrument and in music theory.

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.

At Silverdale, we offer a wide range of instrumental and vocal tuition delivered by specialist music tutors. Pupils can access lessons in instruments including piano, guitar, drums, violin, viola, cello, flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, voice and DJing. These are available as one-to-one or small-group sessions and are open to all students from Year 7 upwards. Many of our students pursue graded exams on their

instrument and in music theory through these peripatetic lessons. Instruments are available to loan through Sheffield Music Hub, or Elegance Music. Instrument lessons are fully subsidised for GCSE musicians who receive Free School Meals.

We offer a wide range of exciting ensembles that students can join, providing opportunities to develop their musical skills, collaborate with others, and perform. These groups rehearse at lunchtime or after school and include Voices4All, Elite Voices, Orchestra, Young Soul Band, GCSE Band, Keyboard Club, BandLab Club, and a number of student-led bands and ensembles.

All clubs are free to attend, and most are open to all students, regardless of prior experience. Students wishing to join the Orchestra must play an instrument, and Elite Voices is an audition- or invitation-only vocal group for more advanced singers.

Many students also make use of our well-equipped music facilities outside of lesson time to rehearse, practise, or work independently on composition projects, helping them to grow as confident and creative musicians.

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 Silverdale, we offer a rich and vibrant calendar of musical events across the academic year, providing all students with opportunities to experience and participate in high-quality musical performances both in school and within the wider community.

Singing is embedded into school life, with all Year 7 students working towards a vocal performance in our annual Winter Concert. We host termly concerts—including our Winter, Spring, and Summer Concerts—which showcase the talents of our choirs, bands, ensembles, soloists, and curriculum music groups. Students from all year groups are encouraged to get involved, whether performing or attending as part of our school audience.

As part of the Performing Arts faculty, the Music Department collaborates closely with Drama to produce our annual Winter Showcase, an interdisciplinary celebration of student creativity. In addition, our whole-school musical, held biennially, brings together music, drama, and dance. This production is open to students in Years 7–13, who can audition for stage roles, join the live band, or take on backstage and technical responsibilities.

We also celebrate musical achievement through the Silverdale Performing Arts Awards, a biennial event recognising student progress, creativity, leadership, and contribution to the performing arts. Prestigious awards are presented, and the evening includes live performances.

Students benefit from workshops and masterclasses led by our team of peripatetic music teachers and professional visiting artists. These have included musicians from organisations such as WaterBear, who provide valuable insight into the music industry and performance practices.

Selected ensembles are also given the opportunity to perform in the local community, representing the school at public events and venues in Sheffield and beyond. These real-world performance experiences are invaluable in helping students build confidence and stagecraft.

Participation in all in-school music events is free, and students can sign up through the Music Department or may be invited through their involvement in ensembles. Tickets for school concerts and trips are kept at an affordable price, and subsidised or fully funded places are available for students eligible for Pupil Premium, ensuring accessibility for all. All funds generated from performances are re-invested back into the music department.

All events are promoted via school newsletters, social media, and internal communications, and we warmly encourage families and the wider school community to attend and support our students' musical journeys.

We are proud to work in partnership with the Sheffield Music Hub, WaterBear, and other regional music organisations to enrich our provision. These collaborations allow us to bring professional experiences into school and open up external opportunities for our students.

Through this extensive programme of events and experiences, we aim to develop confident performers, engaged audiences, and a lifelong passion for music in all our pupils.

In the future

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

Our department's future planning focuses on expanding access and quality across both curriculum and co-curricular music. We are working towards increasing the availability of practice and teaching spaces to accommodate a growing peripatetic programme, in response to rising pupil numbers. We also plan to enhance our music technology

provision, ensuring students have access to industry-standard tools that support composition, production, and recording.

We remain committed to delivering a curriculum that is both inclusive and ambitious, reflecting a diverse range of musical genres, traditions, and pathways. Looking ahead, we are exploring opportunities to introduce more frequent performance events and strengthen our partnerships with professional musicians and organisations, further enriching students' musical experiences in and beyond the classroom

Further information (optional)

Further information can be found on our school [website](#)