

Music Development Plan summary: Harrow Way Community School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	3 rd June 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	1 st September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs E. Massiah
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr G. Fluellen
Name of local music hub	Hampshire Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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

At Harrow Way Community School, we believe that music is a vital part of every child's education and plays an important role in developing creativity, confidence, self-expression, and cultural understanding. Our music curriculum is designed largely in line with the Department for Education's Model Music Curriculum and ensures that all pupils have access to a broad, balanced, and ambitious music education.

The timetable allocation for KS3 Music at Harrow Way is as follows:

Year 7 – 1 x 1 hour lesson every week.

Year 8 – 1 x 1 hour lesson every **two** weeks.

Year 9 – 3 x 1 hour lessons across **two** weeks.

At KS3, we aim to enable every child to:

- Sing confidently and accurately.
- Perform, compose, and listen to music with increasing understanding.
- Develop their musical knowledge and skills progressively from Year 7-9.
- Experience a wide range of musical styles, genres, traditions, and cultures.
- Foster a lifelong appreciation and enjoyment of music.

Singing

Singing is embedded throughout the curriculum and is used to develop pitch accuracy, rhythmic understanding, ensemble skills, musical expression, and confidence. Pupils perform both individually and as part of larger groups.

Instrumental Performance

Pupils gain practical experience on a variety of classroom instruments, including:

- Guitar
- Ukulele
- Keyboard
- Tuned and untuned percussion

Instrumental learning focuses on developing technical control, notation-reading skills, ensemble performance, and musical fluency.

Music Technology

Pupils use Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs) to compose, arrange, record, edit, and produce music. Through music technology, pupils develop an understanding of contemporary music-making practices alongside traditional compositional techniques.

Composition

Pupils create music using voices, instruments, and technology. Compositional work develops progressively from guided tasks to more independent creative projects, enabling pupils to explore melody, harmony, rhythm, texture, structure, and timbre.

Listening and Appraising

Pupils listen to and analyse music from a broad range of genres, styles, periods, and cultures. Listening activities develop musical vocabulary and an understanding of how musical elements are used to create expressive and stylistic effects.

Progression

The curriculum is carefully sequenced to build knowledge and skills over time. Learning revisits and develops key musical concepts through increasingly challenging practical experiences. Pupils are encouraged to make connections between performing, composing, listening, and technology-based music-making.

Inclusion

Music lessons are designed to be accessible to all learners. Adaptive teaching strategies, differentiated resources, and a range of practical approaches ensure that every pupil can participate successfully and make progress.

Assessment

Assessment is ongoing and informs future learning. Pupils are assessed through practical performance, composition, listening activities, use of music technology, and self and peer evaluation. Assessment focuses on musical development and progression rather than solely on technical achievement.

Enrichment and Musical Opportunities

Pupils are encouraged to participate in extracurricular music activities, including ensembles, choir, performances, productions, and instrumental tuition. These opportunities complement and extend classroom learning, supporting the development of confident and engaged young musicians

Key Stage 4 and Post-16 Music Qualifications

At Harrow Way Community School, pupils are provided with opportunities to continue their musical development beyond Key Stage 3 through accredited qualifications and recognised awards.

Key Stage 4

Those who opt for Music will study GCSE Music (Eduqas) at Key Stage 4. The course develops pupils' skills as performers, composers, and listeners through a broad and engaging curriculum. Students have opportunities to:

- Perform as soloists and ensemble musicians using voice, instruments, or music technology.
- Compose original music in response to a range of briefs and musical styles.
- Develop their listening and appraising skills through the study of diverse musical genres and traditions.
- Build practical, analytical, and creative skills that support further study and lifelong engagement with music.

Graded Music Examinations

Pupils across all key stages are encouraged to undertake graded music examinations where appropriate. These may be offered through examination boards such as:

- The Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM)
- Trinity College London
- RockschooL (RSL)

Examinations are available in a range of instruments and voice and provide pupils with opportunities to gain nationally and internationally recognised qualifications. These are usually arranged by the students' instrumental teachers.

Part B: Co-curricular music

At Harrow Way Community School, we are committed to providing a rich and inclusive programme of co-curricular music opportunities that complements and extends classroom learning. Our aim is to encourage participation, develop musical skills, and foster a lifelong engagement with music.

Instrumental and Vocal Tuition

Pupils have access to a wide range of instrumental and vocal lessons delivered by specialist visiting music teachers. Tuition is currently available in:

- Woodwind
- Strings
- Piano
- Guitar
- Bass Guitar
- Drums
- Brass
- Singing

Lessons are available on either an individual or small-group basis, enabling pupils to choose the learning environment that best suits their needs and aspirations.

The cost of tuition is £200 per term (£600 per academic year). To support accessibility, parents and carers are able to pay in instalments throughout the year. There is extra support available to Pupil Premium students that parents of these students need to apply for.

Instrumental and vocal tuition provides pupils with opportunities to develop technical proficiency, musicianship, performance skills, and confidence. Pupils are encouraged to work towards performances and, where appropriate, graded music examinations.

Music Ensembles and Clubs

The Music Department offers a range of free co-curricular activities that are open to all pupils, regardless of prior musical experience:

Choir

The school choir provides opportunities for pupils to develop their vocal technique, ensemble skills, musical literacy, and performance confidence. The choir performs at school events and celebrations throughout the year.

Pop Ensemble

The Pop Ensemble enables pupils to perform contemporary popular music as part of a group. Students develop instrumental skills, rehearsal techniques, teamwork, improvisation, and live performance experience through a varied repertoire of popular music.

Both ensembles are free to attend and are led by members of the Music Department.

Performance Opportunities

Pupils are encouraged to share and celebrate their musical achievements through a variety of performance opportunities during the academic year. These may include school concerts, assemblies, celebration events, productions, community performances, and informal showcases.

Through participation in co-curricular music, pupils develop confidence, resilience, collaboration, creativity, and a sense of belonging within the wider school community.

Part C: Musical experiences

At Harrow Way Community School, we aim to provide pupils with a wide range of musical experiences that enrich their education, celebrate achievement, and foster a lifelong appreciation of music. Throughout the academic year, pupils have opportunities to perform, attend live music events, and engage with music in a variety of settings.

Performance Opportunities

Music is a visible and valued part of school life, with numerous opportunities for pupils to perform and share their musical talents. Our regular performance opportunities include:

Winter Concert

Each year, the Music Department hosts a Winter Concert, showcasing the work of classroom musicians, instrumentalists, singers, ensembles, and examination groups. The concert provides pupils with the opportunity to perform to a live audience and celebrate their musical achievements.

GCSE Music Showcase

Pupils studying GCSE Music participate in an annual showcase event, performing their examination repertoire and occasionally presenting examples of their compositional work. This event celebrates the creativity and commitment of our Key Stage 4 musicians.

School Musical

The annual school musical provides opportunities for pupils to participate as performers, musicians, singers, and members of the production team. The production enables students to develop confidence, teamwork, resilience, and performance skills while contributing to a major whole-school event.

School and Community Performances

Pupils regularly perform at celebration evenings, open events, and other school occasions throughout the year. These performances provide valuable opportunities for students to share their musical talents with the wider school community.

Community Engagement

The school choir visits local care homes during the Christmas period to perform seasonal repertoire. These visits allow pupils to experience the positive impact of music within the community while developing confidence and empathy through performance.

Live Music Experiences

We believe that experiencing live music is an important part of a pupil's musical education.

Each summer term, pupils in Years 8 and 9 are offered the opportunity to attend a live opera performance. This experience broadens pupils' understanding of different musical traditions and exposes them to professional musicians and large-scale musical performance.

Where possible, additional opportunities to attend concerts, productions, workshops, and performances are offered throughout the year to further enrich pupils' musical experiences.

Through these varied opportunities, pupils develop their musical understanding, cultural awareness, performance confidence, and appreciation of the role music plays within society and the wider community.

In the future

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

Future Development Priorities

The Music Department is committed to continually reviewing and developing its provision to ensure that all pupils have access to a high-quality music education that reflects the aspirations of the National Plan for Music Education and the Model Music Curriculum.

Curriculum Time

A key priority is to increase curriculum music provision in Year 8 to one lesson per week. The Model Music Curriculum recommends that pupils receive regular, sustained music education throughout Key Stage 3 in order to develop musical knowledge, skills, and understanding progressively over time.

Increasing curriculum time in Year 8 would enable pupils to:

- Develop greater fluency in instrumental performance.
- Engage in more substantial composition and music technology projects.
- Strengthen their understanding of musical concepts and vocabulary.
- Experience a broader range of musical styles and traditions.
- Be better prepared for progression to Key Stage 4 Music qualifications.

Participation and Inclusion

The department will continue to explore ways of increasing participation in instrumental and vocal tuition, particularly amongst pupils who may face financial barriers to accessing music education. These methods may include increasing awareness amongst parents of students who receive the Pupil Premium that funding for instrumental lessons may be available.

Musical Experiences

We aim to expand opportunities for pupils to experience live music and engage with professional musicians. This may include attending additional concerts, workshops, and performances, as well as developing partnerships with local arts organisations and music providers.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Music Development Plan will be reviewed annually to evaluate the impact of provision and identify future priorities. Pupil voice, participation data, examination outcomes, and engagement in co-curricular activities will inform future developments and ensure that the music curriculum continues to meet the needs of all learners.

Further information

Local Music Hub: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/hampshiremusic>