

Music Development Plan summary: Lodestar Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was first published	27/11/2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	28/01/2027
Name of the school music lead	Benjamin Faux
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Beth Woodward
Name of local music hub	Torbay
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Sound Communities

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.

At our school, we integrate music into a variety of subjects to enrich the learning experience and cater to the diverse needs of our students aged 11–16 with SEMH needs. Through cross-curricular teaching, music is woven into our curriculum in innovative and engaging ways that foster creativity, self-expression, and emotional connection.

In *Film Studies*, students explore music as an element of film form, analyzing film scores and their composers to understand how music enhances a film's themes and emotional impact. They also discuss diegetic and non-diegetic music, examining how sound shapes audience perceptions and influences character experiences.

In *English*, music is a powerful tool to guide creative writing. Students draw inspiration from lyrics and instrumentation, using these elements to set the mood and tone of their

written pieces. This practice helps students express their thoughts and emotions more vividly, connecting deeply with their writing.

In *Maths*, we explore the relationship between classical music and algebra, providing students with a unique opportunity to experience patterns and sequences through sound. This creative approach enhances understanding while offering an enjoyable and calming learning environment.

In *Art*, students investigate the connection between visual art and music, focusing on concepts like chromesthesia and synaesthesia. By studying artists like Kandinsky, they explore how music influences colour and form, fostering interdisciplinary creativity and broadening their artistic perspectives.

Additionally, our students benefit from external workshops such as *Sound Communities*, which offer hands-on experiences in drumming, sound mixing, and other music-related activities. These workshops inspire collaboration, build confidence, and allow students to engage with music in a practical and meaningful way.

Through this integrated approach, our curriculum ensures all students experience music in ways that are accessible, stimulating, and tailored to their individual needs.

Part B: Co-curricular music (Developing Music and Embedding Arts in Our Strategy).

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.

As part of our strategy to enhance music education and achieve an Artsmark Award, we are committed to developing our music provision and embedding it within a broader arts curriculum. This initiative will enrich students' creative experiences and support their SEMH needs through the arts.

To encourage active participation in music, we plan to introduce instrument tuition, including keyboard, guitar, and percussion. Tuition will be subsidised or free for pupils eligible for pupil premium, ensuring equity and accessibility. We aim to partner with external providers, such as our local music hub and Andrew Newman a local music teacher, to deliver high-quality, engaging lessons tailored to the needs of our students.

We intend to give pupils an opportunity to see and become enriched by musical theatre and choir. This will be open to all year groups, allowing students to express themselves through vocal performance and collaboration. To ensure inclusivity, participation in the

theatre and choir will be free of charge, Pupils will have the opportunity for performance during the academic year. These indicatives will foster and strengthen teamwork and creativity.

Our studio 22 space can be utilised as a rehearsal space providing students with a calm and supportive environment for individual or group practice. This space can be equipped as needed to encourage focused practice sessions.

To integrate music further within our arts strategy, we plan integrate music, art, and drama, building students' confidence and showcasing their talents. Additionally, we will expand cross-curricular links, such as music-inspired art projects and creative writing workshops, while exploring partnerships with local arts organisations to provide workshops and trips to live performances.

Through these developments, we aim to create a vibrant arts culture that inspires our students, aligns with the Artsmark framework, and strengthens our commitment to delivering inclusive, high-quality arts education.

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.

This academic year, we are committed to providing a range of engaging musical experiences to enhance our students.

We will offer music-inspired creative projects and will involve students across all year groups as participants or audience members, providing opportunities for both active engagement and appreciation.

Trips to theatre and performances are also planned to inspire students and expose them to live music experiences. Subsidised or free tickets will be available for students eligible for pupil premium to ensure equal access to these enriching opportunities.

We will continue to partner with external providers such as our local music hub and other music education organisations. These partnerships will enable us to host workshops, bring professional musicians into the school, and provide unique, hands-on musical experiences.

Through these diverse events and collaborations, we aim to nurture a lifelong appreciation for music and build confidence, creativity, and emotional expression in all our students.

Future Growth and Artsmark Development

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

Future Growth and Artsmark Development

As part of our long-term strategy, we aim to strengthen music education by increasing curriculum music lessons 1-1, ensuring an offer to all students of high-quality provision. We will introduce a wider variety of instruments and expand co-curricular opportunities, such as additional ensembles and partnerships with local music hubs.

Regular termly performances will remain central to showcasing progress and embedding music within a broader arts culture. These developments will contribute to achieving the Artsmark Award, reflecting our commitment to fostering creativity and celebrating the arts across our school community.

Further information (optional)

For additional information about our school's music development plan, we recommend exploring resources from our local music hub and other music education organisations we collaborate with. These partners provide valuable opportunities and support for music education both in and out of school.

The Department for Education offers a helpful guide for parents and young people on how to engage with music and access support beyond the school setting.