

Mulberry Academy Shoreditch - School Music Development Plan

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.

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024/25
Date this summary was published	23/09/24
Date this summary will be reviewed	01/07/24
Name of the school music lead	Mr N Feasey
Name of local music hub	THAMES Music Hub

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.

The number of hours given to music education varies at each key stage. Over a two-week period, pupils in key stage 3 receive 2 hours of classroom teaching. This is increased to 6 hours for key stage 4 and 8 hours to key stage 5.

The model music curriculum (March 2021) is used to inform teaching and planning throughout Key Stage 3. Particular focus is given to ensuring that, by the end of Key Stage 3, pupils will have:

- Gained aural knowledge of some of the great musical output of human civilisation
- Engaged with creative processes through improvisation and composition
- Built an understanding of how musical elements work and discussed how to interact with subjective and objective models of musical meaning
- Developed knowledge of a wider range of notes and improved their fluency with music notation.

At Key Stage 3 pupils focus on developing performance and compositional skills and are able to explore music from a range of cultural and historical backgrounds. Pupils also develop their listening skills and understanding of musical elements by studying work from a wide

range of genres and composers. This ranges from Western Classical Music to Reggae, Blues, Samba, Jazz, Bhangra and more. During Key Stage 3, pupils develop their skills on various instruments including the keyboards, percussion and ukulele. Pupils are then given the option to pursue music further at GCSE and A-Level.

In years 10 and 11, pupils can take Music as a GCSE. Pupils will learn about four areas of study; Musical Forms and Devices, Ensemble Music, Film Music and Popular Music. Within these areas of study, pupils will learn about great composers from the Baroque, Classical and Romantic era, as well as from the modern era. This course continues to develop pupils' instrument/vocal skills both as a soloist and as part of an ensemble. At this level, pupils will continue to develop their ability to analyse music in detail, using an increasingly broad vocabulary. Pupils will be assessed in their performance, composition and listening abilities.

In years 12 and 13, pupils can continue their studies of music at A-Level. This route provides pupils with the opportunity to further research and deepen their understanding of Western Classical Tradition, as well as genres such as Popular Music, Musical Theatre and Jazz. Pupils' analytical skills will further improve and students' will be able to discuss the music that they hear with a sophisticated vocabulary. This route also assesses students' performance, composition and listening skills.

Our aim is to remove barriers of learning and for all students to be able to access music above a Key Stage 3 level, regardless of whether or not they have taken instrument lessons outside of our school provision.

Those learning instruments in school with THAMES music service also have the option of taking graded exams on these instruments with boards such as Rockscool, Trinity College of Music or Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM). Pupils are given support with preparation for these exams and are celebrated in assemblies/newsletters.

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.

We offer instrument tuition for both one-to-one and small groups in collaboration with THAMES music service. Instrument lessons for piano, drums, guitar, bass guitar, violin, cello, clarinet, flute, saxophone, trumpet and trombone are offered at no cost to the pupil/family. In addition to this, a large school choir is run for all pupils to be a part of. All extra-curricular services are provided free of charge.

The department offers a range of ensemble opportunities from teacher led ensemble club and student led bands, to trust-wide orchestra opportunities. The department also offers the following after school clubs: Singing Club (Wednesdays), Ensembles Club (Thursdays) and Music Club (Fridays). More information on clubs can be found here or in our posters/weekly newsletters.

Pupils are also encouraged to make use of practice rooms and classrooms in their breaktimes, lunchtimes, free periods (sixth-form pupils) and after school to write their own music, practice their instruments, prepare classroom performances and form bands.

Each group has opportunities to perform and share their music termly, either through school events, termly music club performance days or through trust wide events and performances.

In addition to this, we offer students the opportunity to take part in the Mulberry Production Arts Academy. This year long project (offered to year 9 and year 12 students) gives pupils experience in careers within the wider arts industry, giving students a broader understanding of where a music GCSE can take them in the future.

Musical Experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing at assemblies, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

The music department puts on termly music sharing events which are held in the last 2 weeks of each term. Each year there is a musical performed in collaboration with the drama department which is performed to parents/carers, as well as students and staff. Pupils also perform solo pieces during school open mornings/events.

On November 13th, students have the opportunity to perform at the Mulberry Festival of Arts. This annual student-led festival, held in a theatre and ran through the Mulberry Production Arts Academy. Schools from across the trust are invited to share their performances each year.

Once every half-term, the music club runs a music sharing evening, where pupils perform to peers and staff to celebrate either their solo or ensemble progress in music club.

In addition to performing at the Mulberry Festival of Arts and music sharing events throughout the year; the choir will deliver a performance at the Global Girl Leading Conference at the QEII Centre on the 11th October.

In the Future

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

Music at MAS continues to grow and develop, and we are always looking forward to the next step. With our clubs and instrument lessons at capacity last year, we are happy to announce a new ensemble and singing clubs starting this year. This is in line with our goal to drive engagement with co-curricular music activities, and build new provisions for our students.

In addition to this, we aim to raise the number of pupils selecting to study GCSE Music in 2025/2026, and improve the number of pupils moving on to A-Level music and further academic destinations.

We have successfully staged a Musical Medley featuring work from a number of musical theatre shows and are excited to continue collaborating with the drama department on future shows.