

Music development plan summary: The Holgate Academy



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	01/09/25
Date this summary will be reviewed	12/07/2026
Name of the school music lead	David Butterworth
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Daniel Cook
Name of local music hub	Inspire
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, 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 The Holgate Academy we deliver high quality provision in music currently across, KS4 and KS5. We are currently promoting Music to attract a cohort for the next academic year for KS4. The KS3 curriculum has been revised to include features of the national plan for music education.

The school music curriculum is also informed by the Model music curriculum (March 2021, this is a piece of non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key stages 1 to 3. Our school has timetabled 1 hour each week for years 7 and 8 with year 9 experiencing a one hour a week over a period of 8 weeks, allowing students to experience a more in-depth intense education experience. During the lessons we give access to group music making experiences across a range of instruments, including the use of voice. This includes whole class keyboards, African drumming, Samba drumming, Piano, Guitar and ukuleles and computer software including, Ableton

(Digital Audio Workstation), across all key stages. There is an emphasis on practical application in year 9 to highlight skills learnt through year 7 and 8. The KS3 curriculum is scaffolded so that prior learning is built upon lesson by lesson, topic by topic. The aim is to give students the experiences needed for a successful music education but to also broaden knowledge and learning abilities to develop specific skills.

Topics that have been included in KS3 includes Blues music, reggae and African drumming. Film and stage are built upon at KS4, for example these genres are studied at KS4 through the Pearson BTEC Tech award Music practice.

KS3 Curriculum can be found on the school's share point which is accessible to all.

The KS4 curriculum consists of the following course:

BTEC Technical Award in Music Practice (this course is graded Distinction star to pass, this is equivalent to GCSE grade 1 to 8)

[Music Practice \(2022\) | BTEC Tech Awards | Pearson qualifications](#)

The Holgate Academy has a timetabled curriculum that includes 2 hours a week. This allows for the music department to plan for the BTEC as it covers the guided learning hours for the course.

Across the KS4 pathway, students engage with different genres of music, ranging from western classical tradition to modern popular music. Students will then engage in production skills, compositional skills and creation through chosen outlets. These skills build onto the potential to progress to KS5 to carry on and pursue learning at a higher level.

[Music Practice \(2022\) | BTEC Tech Awards | Pearson qualifications](#)

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.

To support our SEND students, we have access to separate practise rooms alongside specialised pieces of equipment to support both neurodiverse needs and sensory issues such as noise cancelling headphones. Students with Pupil Premium status are supported financially when attending events and extra music provision if required.

All students enjoy live music at least once a year; this can include attending the school show, attending the local church at Christmas or during the school's 'Summer Showcase'.

Part B: Co-curricular music

This section will outline what opportunities The Holgate Academy offers regarding playing music outside of lesson time, including extra tuition and school choirs, ensembles and bands.

We are supported through Inspire with the offer of Peripatetic music provision. They work in partnership with Nottinghamshire county council.

[Inspire Music | NCC Schools Portal](#)

The music provision can offer a wide range of instrumental lessons including singing but currently we have students participating in guitar and drum lessons. Students opt for termly lessons (10 lessons), with the option for more if they wish. Each lesson is delivered in a specialist practise room each week at an allocated time. Students who have Pupil Premium status are often entitled to subsidised music tuition. This also includes students who receive free school meals, has a parent who is in receipt of disability allowance or a parent who is currently serving in the armed forces. The company offer remission which parents and carers can identify so they are subsidised for the lessons.

Music clubs run daily with both lunch time and after school provision. These clubs are attended well with the rehearsals for the school show having to run over several evenings as they are well attended. Our current school production (We Will Rock You) is often rehearsed at lunch and after school, we also offer sessions over the school breaks for students who wish to attend. We do not charge for our clubs and the current offer is as follows

1. School show- production rehearsals
2. All age Choir- 1 lunch time a week
3. Music lunch club KS4
4. Music lunch club KS3
5. Strings club

We open practice spaces regularly for students to further improve students' skills. The open availability allows students the practice spaces to nurture independent work and build bands outside of the classroom. These bands often then perform in school in front of their peers.

Currently we have been awarded Arts mark Gold due to the extra activities and commitment to the wider 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 section outlines what events we are involved in and what we plan to encourage a lifelong passion for musical education.

Academic year 2025-2026	Performance opportunity	Students involved
Carol Concert	Choir.	Year 8-12
School Show – We Will Rock You	Musical show	All years
Summer Showcase	Solo/Duet/Band	Year 8-13
Masked singer	Dance	Year 8

In the future

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

Use this space to include any information on any improvements you plan to make for subsequent years in curriculum music, co-curricular music or musical experiences, including when you plan to introduce changes.

Also consider including:

- any information that relates to the 7 features of high-quality music provision (see the text box at the beginning of the template), such as increasing lesson time to one hour a week each term, introducing the teaching of new instruments or having a termly school performance.
- Invest in musical instruments
- More performance opportunities in school – Christmas concert/Gig night
- More trips to see musicals/live music
- Investment into computer and digital music
- Collaboration with primary schools
- Events outside of school – eg music for youth.

Further information (optional)

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

[Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Music Hub | Inspire - Culture, Learning, Libraries](#)