

Music Development Plan Summary: Newstead Wood School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Stephen Flanagan
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mathew Bournat
Name of local music hub	Bromley Youth Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	United Learning Central Team

Part A: Curriculum music

Music is taught weekly at KS3. Our school follows the United Learning trust-wide curriculum framework and we have adapted this locally to meet the needs of our learners. Our curriculum can be found on the [school website](#). We work with our subject advisers to ensure that both the curriculum intent and implementation is having impact, and we can seek support from this team throughout the year.

We have taken special care to ensure that playing instruments is a prominent feature of our curriculum. We aim to ensure that all students have access to learning a musical instrument through the curriculum, and they can specialise on one instrument as they move through Key Stage Three. For example, in Year 9 students can choose whether to approach units as a keyboard player, singer, drummer etc., and the foundation for these has been provided earlier on in the curriculum.

Performance – celebrating product as well as process – is also carefully planned into our curriculum. From low stakes moments of formative assessment to class ensemble performances, to the end of term concerts. We celebrate the talent and progress of our students and provide them with a platform to develop their confidence and share their creativity.

At KS4, students receive 2 hours per week to study the EDEXCEL GCSE course. More information can be found on this via our [website](#).

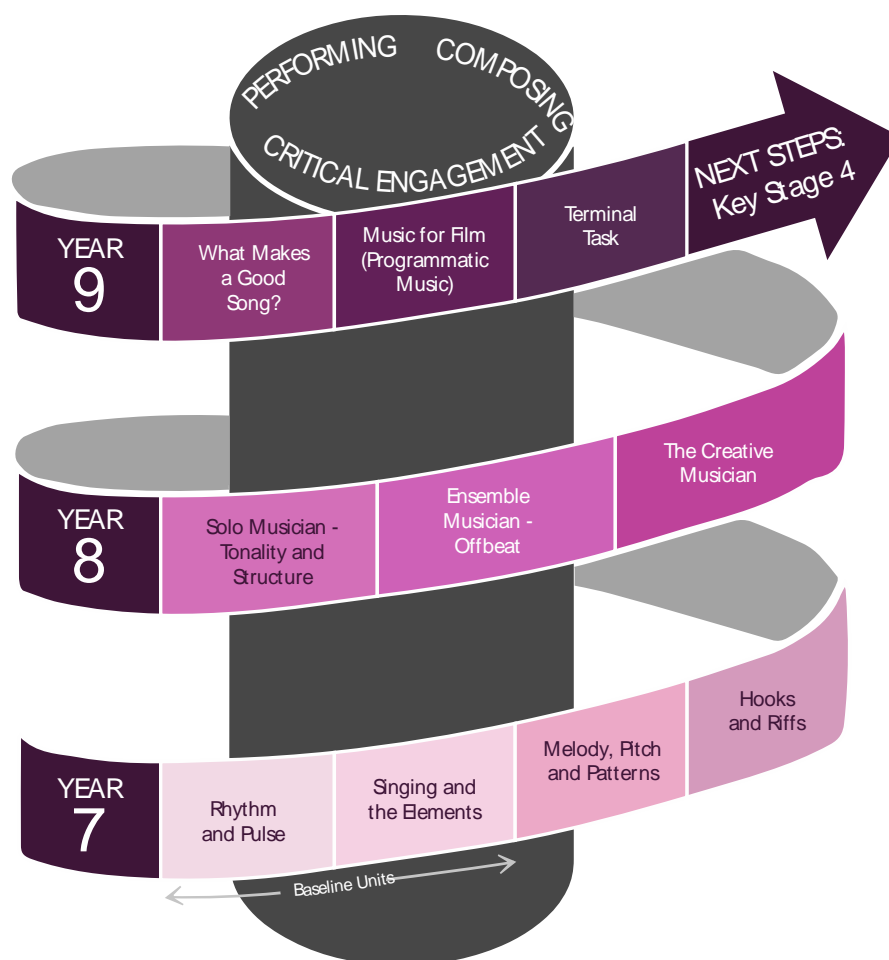
At KS5, students receive 4 hours per week to study Eduqas A-Level Music course. More information can be found on this via our [website](#).

See the school information on curriculum:

<https://www.newsteadwood.co.uk/curriculum/curriculum>

and on SEND <https://www.newsteadwood.co.uk/school-life/send>

The school music curriculum is influenced by the United Learning model music curriculum (March 2021), which is built from the National Curriculum requirements, and adapted locally to the needs of our cohort of students.



There are many opportunities for pupils to learn to sing or play an instrument during lesson time, including through whole-class ensemble teaching in some or all year groups, such as Year 7 Instruments of the Orchestra, Year 8 Jazz and Year 9 Musical Theatre Performing Arts.

KEY STAGE 3 OVERVIEW

Year 7: Vocal Works, the Elements of Music, Keyboard Skills, Instruments of the Orchestra, the Baroque Era and Rhythms of the World.

Year 8: Blues, Jazz, Classical Variations, Reggae, Songwriting and Modernism

Year 9: Romantic Piano, Club Dance, Cover Band, Film music and Musical Theatre

Embedded in each topic are the rudiments of music theory, giving students the tools to compose and perform and enabling them to listen and respond to music more discerningly. All topics combine performing, composing, listening and appraising tasks and a wide range of singing activities.

KEY STAGE 4 OVERVIEW - At Key Stage 4, the subject is divided into the following three components:

- Understanding music
- Performing music
- Composing music

The areas of study provide an appropriate focus for students to appraise, develop and demonstrate an in-depth knowledge and understanding of musical elements, musical context and musical language. The eight set works can also provide a rich source of material for our students to work with when developing their performance and composition skills.

The four areas of study comprise:

1. Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No.3
2. Purcell's Music for a While
3. Beethoven's Pathetique Sonata
4. Queen's Killer Queen
5. Star Wars Main Title Theme
6. Wicked's Defying Gravity
7. Afro Celt Sound System's Release
8. Esperanza Spalding's Samba Em Preludio.

KEY STAGE 5 OVERVIEW

Course content

Music at Newstead Wood School provides students with an excellent opportunity to develop as a performer and composer. Through studying music from a range of different styles, and honing listening and appraising skills, students will deepen their musical understanding. It is an exciting course that mixes the creative with the academic.

Component 1: Performing

Student's choice of:

- **Option A (35%) – Performance of 10-12 minutes.**
- **Option B (25%) – Performance of 6-8 minutes.**

Students will work independently, with support from their instrumental teacher and the Music Department, to prepare a recital performance. They will perform at various points throughout the course in preparation for the final assessed public recital in April of Year 13. Students perform as a soloist for at least one of their pieces and can also choose to perform as part of an ensemble. They can perform on any instrument (including voice) and are assessed on performance accuracy, technical control and stylistic awareness.

Component 2: Composing

Student's choice of:

- **Option A (25%) – externally assessed portfolio of 4-6 minutes.**
- **Option B (35%) – externally assessed portfolio of 8-10 minutes.**

Students will develop advanced composition skills in a number of styles leading to a submission of at least two pieces (depending on their choice of Option A or B). Students will have the opportunity to develop their music technology skills within this part of the course, using Logic Pro or Musescore in our Apple Mac suite. They will develop their own unique compositional voice within the conventions of the Western Classical Tradition, as well as within other genres including Rock & Pop, Jazz, Musicals and Twentieth-century music.

Component 3: Appraising (40%)

(2h15m examination)

Students engage with music at an in-depth level, exploring some diverse set works and wider listening. Through developing critical analytical skills, students will uncover how composers have achieved their outcomes; we will explore how the elements of music have been handled and the impact of the music's historical, geographical and social contexts. All work in this component link to the three areas of study:

- Western Classical Tradition: The Development of the Symphony (one set work)
- Musical Theatre or Pop/Rock
- Into the Twentieth-Century (two set works)

Entry requirements:

Music GCSE at Level 7 or above. Students will normally have achieved at least Grade 5 (ABRSM or equivalent) on their primary instrument before starting the course.

Future opportunities

The course cultivates skills required across multiple disciplines, such as collaboration, academic writing, creative thinking, working to deadlines and independence.

Students in Year 12 are invited to apply for positions of Music Subject Leaders.

Part B: Co-curricular music

There is a rich co-curricular offer in Music and the Performing Arts at Newstead Wood School. We are a welcoming department where students are encouraged to make the most of the opportunities and spaces that we have. The enrichment timetable this year will include:

	MB1	MB2	MB2 – After School
Monday	Rock Bands Mr. Hunt 1.30pm All welcome	GCSE Extra Mr. Flanagan 1.10pm Year 11	
Tuesday	Chamber Choir Mr. Boutall 1.30pm All welcome	String Quartet Mr. Flanagan 3.15pm All welcome	Guitar Club Ms. Dixon 3.15pm By invitation only
Wednesday	Jazz Collective Mr. Flanagan 1.30pm Grade 2+	Young Voices Mr. Hunt 3.15pm All welcome	
Thursday	Senior Orchestra Mr. Woodham 1.20pm Grade 5+	MusTech / Songwriting Mr. Hunt 1.30pm First 12 to arrive	Flute Group Mrs. Carter 3.15pm By invitation only
Friday	Junior Orchestra Mr. Woodham 1.20pm All welcome	Folk Group Mr. Hunt 1.30pm All welcome	

This is all provided at no cost to students, and we carefully target students who may need additional encouragement to attend.

We offer a range of one-to-one and small group lessons with high quality tutors who use our space to teach. These are paid for by parents and, where fundable, supported by the school. Currently we are able to offer: piano, violin, viola, cello, double bass, flute, oboe, clarinet, trumpet, French horn, trombone, percussion, drumkit, classical guitar, electric guitar and singing. The cost is £21.50 per 30 minute lessons and more information about this can be found [here](#).

We have worked hard to make links with the local music education hub; they welcome our students to attend after school ensembles and holiday courses. More information about this can be found here: [Bromley Youth Music Trust](#)

Part C: Musical experiences

Throughout the year, ensembles and soloists perform at school events:

1. Winter Concert
2. Carol Service
3. Night at the Musicals
4. Fairfield Halls Spring Concert with Bromley Youth Music Trust.
5. Royal Opera House 'The Magic Flute' with United Learning
6. Royal Festival Hall Summer Concert with United Learning.

All students are welcome to sing in the choir as well as join a suitable ensemble,

There are assembly performances on the piano every week by one of our pianists.

There are also various trips to West End shows and concerts for all at the school.

There is a termly speaker for targeted music students to hear about the current industry.

Music is performed in assemblies and events, and there is collaboration with other subjects, such as Drama in our annual school production. Students also perform beyond school in local/regional events for example, Music Hub events and local festivals)

In the future

With the support of United Learning, we have reviewed ourselves against the Music Teachers Association self-evaluation framework. In doing this we identified that singing and ensembles could be further developed in our school, so that we have a multiple choirs and progression routes both to and beyond singing in school.

The school is progressing in both personnel and resources so that the following will be possible:

- Participate in the trust-wide singing project, 'The Magic Flute', to benefit from training, resources and two prestigious performance opportunities
- Include singing across our taught curriculum, by including connected repertoire in every unit, with high quality warmups.
- Include assembly singing, making use of the curriculum repertoire
- Trips to concerts
- Speakers from past students currently in the Music industry.

- Arrange a vocal masterclass with a visiting musician in Term 2, prior to the GCSE composition deadlines. They will be able to workshop compositions and give professional feedback
- Grade One-athon.
- Arrange a staff choir for the Winter Concert, to provide role models

There is plenty of scope to use current school events to promote more informal music, such as the Best In Everyone, ACE, Open Mornings. More peripatetic instrumental teachers can lead ensembles as well.