

Music development plan summary: Liverpool College – Secondary Phase



This Music Development Plan sets out how we will deliver high quality music provision for all pupils in the three areas of:

- curriculum,
- extra-curricular
- enrichment.

This document will set out our current music provision, celebrate success and identify areas of development. It sets out how we deliver the music curriculum and ensures the following provisions:

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year at key stage 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	August 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2026
Name of the school music lead (Secondary)	D Bishop
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	A McWatt
Name of local music hub	Resonate
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 the following three areas:

- curriculum music,
- extra-curricular provision
- musical experiences

It also includes 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.

What we teach in lesson time

The music curriculum encompasses the three areas of performing, composing and appraising music.

Performing includes ensemble singing, ukulele performance, keyboard performance, ensemble performance on a range of instruments.

Composing includes graphic score composition, composing using notation in the treble and bass clef, song writing, creating cover versions of popular songs, arranging and composing using technology (Studio One).

Appraising includes relevant listening activities linked to the units studied alongside a programme of listening to music across the musical periods as guided by the Model Music Curriculum.

The music curriculum can be found on the following links: [KS3 & KS4](#) [KS5](#)

How much time is spent teaching music

Pupils in KS3 are timetabled one hour of music lessons per week.

Pupils in KS4 are timetabled five hours of music lessons over the two-week timetable.

Pupils in KS5 are timetabled nine hours of music lessons over the two-week timetable.

The Music Curriculum - KS3

The curriculum is designed to gradually develop skills in the three areas of music (performing, composing and appraising) throughout KS3, building on what is taught in the primary phase. Parts of the KS3 music curriculum are inspired by the MMC, particularly the listening programme. Pupils are able to perform as soloists, in small groups and in large ensembles.

The Music Curriculum – KS4 & 5

The exam boards we use are Edexcel & OCR. Further information on the specifications for each award can be found here:

[GCSE](#)

[A Level \(Ch 13\)](#)

[A Level \(Ch 12\)](#)

Partnerships

CPC Orchestra. Liverpool Cathedral. Resonate Music Hub.

Part B: Extra-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.

Instrumental & Vocal Lessons

A team of self-employed musicians offer 1:1 instrumental and vocal lessons to our pupils for a charge. Lessons are taught during the school day and are available to anyone wanting to learn the following instruments:

- Singing (any style)
- Piano/Keyboard
- Organ

- Flute
- Clarinet
- Saxophone

- Drums
- Percussion

- Trumpet
- Cornet
- Trombone

- Guitar
- Bass Guitar
- Ukulele

- Violin
- Viola
- 'Cello
- Double Bass

Extra-Curricular Clubs

Pupils are welcome to join any of our extra-curricular clubs regardless of ability. These clubs run outside of lesson time either during of at the end of the school day.

- Voices (choir) Ch 7-13
- Chamber choir, Ch 10-13
- BPM (orchestra), cross-College
- Jazz Band, Ch7-13
- Brass Band
- Senior Production Band (Ch 7-10+12)
- KS2/3 Production Band (Ch 3-8)

Pupils are welcome to start their own groups, bands and ensembles and are given the space and opportunity to develop as musicians outside the classroom.

Pupils can make progress outside of lesson time by rehearsing along to videos in the [‘Rehearsal Videos’ playlist](#) on our [YouTube channel](#).

Pupils are able to join CPC Orchestra which rehearses in our Prep School on Saturdays.

Before, during and after the school day, pupils are able to rehearse in the following spaces:

- Large Rehearsal Room
- Practice Room 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
- Specialised keyboard room
- Recording Studio

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.

Calendar of Events

A series of annual events take place throughout the year, including:

- Founders' Day (October)
- Remembrance Sunday (November)
- * Concert for a Cure (November/December)
- PTA Christmas Market (November/December)
- GCSE & A Level Recital Evening (November/December)
- Christmas Carol Services (December)
- * Senior Production (January/February)
- Music Masters Concert (March)
- Upper School Speech Night & Prizegiving Ceremony (March)
- * KS2/3 Production (March)
- Brass & Organ Extravaganza (May)
- * Summertime Soiree (July)
- * Expressive Arts Café & Awards Evening (July)
- * Concert Tour to Europe (July)

All events are free to attend except events where costs incurred must be recovered through ticket sales. These events are marked *.

In addition to the calendar of regular events above, we support our PTA by performing at their events throughout the year, supply music for Sports Days and are available for other one-off events that may take place throughout the year.

All pupils who are regular members of the extra-curricular groups perform in some/all of the above.

If timetabling allows, pupils in KS3 are invited to watch the dress rehearsal of the Senior Production.

Pupils in Ch 7 visit the Liverpool Philharmonic Hall to enjoy a KS3 concert each March.

In the future

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

Whilst the KS3 curriculum is planned to ensure the progression of skills in each area of performing, composing and appraising, we often find the need to alter content, the way we deliver each unit based on experience from the previous year due to the interests and abilities of the pupils in the cohort. Units may be taught in different orders based on availability of equipment/specialist rooms etc.

- We meet with our instrumental staff team formally once a year at the AGM to review the past year and to plan for the next.
- Our pupils currently enjoy live performance each term through reflection and celebration assemblies. We plan to re-introduce visits to the Liverpool Philharmonic Schools' Concerts and to also offer opportunity to attend live musical theatre.
- Collaboration with Resonate Music Hub in the secondary phase.
- Opportunities for Music Scholars

Further information

www.liverpoolcollege.org.uk