Music Development Plan Summary:
Walkwood Church of England Middle School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs G Laishley
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs L Cull
Name of local music hub	Severn Arts
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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 developments 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.

The Music Department curriculum rationale, calendar and learning journal are available here: https://www.walkwoodms.worcs.sch.uk/Music

Furthermore:

- At KS2 Music is studied for 1 hour per fortnight and at KS3 for 1 hour per week.
- Our curriculum has a clearly sequenced narrative to ensure the long-term retention of musical understanding. This covers the attainment targets of the National Curriculum and supported by the Model Music Curriculum.
- We develop students' knowledge, skills and understanding with a clear focus on learning *in* and *through* music. Our approach is rooted in the reality of the musical activities undertaken in lessons with practical music-making at the heart of the student experience.
- Learning Journals support students understanding of their own progression and are a space to show their working as musicians. Learning Journals provide evidence of progression alongside audio and visual recordings.
- Literacy is supported through a core vocabulary known to students as Dr Smith alongside commonly used procedural vocabulary and topic specific keywords.
- Assessment in Music is supported by the principles of the ISM Framework for KS2 and KS3 ensuring that assessment is musical and demonstrates progress over time.
- Our curriculum draws on a range of specialist resources to ensure the best pedagogical approach to the delivery of a musical concept including for those with SEND.

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.

We offer instrument lessons provided by Pro Music Tuition Ltd and our own guitar teacher Mr Nicholson. These are taught during lesson time based on a model of 20-minute shared lessons. We currently offer the following instruments: Guitar, Piano/Keyboard, Drum Kit, Singing, Woodwind (Flute, Clarinet and Saxophone) and Strings. There is a reduced fee for those eligible for Pupil Premium and Looked After Children (LAC). Pro Music Tuition Ltd also support the hire or purchase of instruments if required.

Information is provided to parents of those receiving instrument lessons about ensemble opportunities provided by Severn Arts: https://www.severnarts.org.uk/understanding-severn-arts-music-groups-bands-and-orchestras

We have a choir and orchestra. Our choir and orchestra are open to all students and students can join without audition. Students can join with no audition required. There is no charge for these extra-curricular activities.

The Music Department also runs after school extra-curricular activities on a half-termly basis. These are hour long sessions focused on a range of instruments including keyboard, ukulele and recorder. These are again free to attend and are open to all students.

In addition, we have two practice rooms which are available for students to book for informal learning individually or in groups. information on where pupils can rehearse or practice individually or in groups.

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.

We offer a range of musical experiences at Walkwood Church of England Middle School including:

- We have regular hymn practice as part of our Collective Worship.
- There is an annual Christmas Carol Service held at our local church. The carols are led by student musicians.
- Spring and Summer Concerts are held annually and include performances from our ensembles, extra-curricular clubs and soloists and are very well support by our school community.
- There is a bi-annual school production. This is open to all year groups with all students who audition receiving a role. Rehearsals are run as an extra-curricular activity with performances over three evening which gain excellent support.
- A small number of students participate in ensembles or other local performance opportunities such as musical theatre groups.
- Work completed in curriculum music lessons is regularly emailed home in the form of audio recordings to be shared and celebrated with parents. These are also shared on our school social media platform.

All the school performances are free to participate in and attend except for the school production where a ticket fee is charged.

In the future

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

Alongside our commitments to the development of teaching and learning in the Music curriculum, the following have been identified as areas for development in subsequent years:

- Increase participation in orchestral instruments particularly woodwind and strings which are currently offered in small numbers.
- Explore informal opportunities for parents to share in performances of after-school clubs.
- Introduce age-appropriate opportunities for formal recognition of music making or knowledge such as music theory grades or Arts Award Explore and Discover.
- Integrating competent classroom musicians into extra-curricular ensembles to widen participation in extra-curricular music.
- Identify opportunities for students to enjoy a live performance or work with professional musicians as part of their wider curriculum.

Further information

The local plan for music education produced by Severn Arts can be found here: “School Music Education Plan”
https://www.severnarts.org.uk/npme?gad_source=1&gclid=CjwKCAjwnqK1BhBvEiwAi7o0X78MxvSISkM_k-WN0SSScMn4X91RJpZHWhJn42-IdqkbGNz7OIMLZRoCAwwQAvD_BwE

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.