

Music development plan summary: Oxford Spires Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-6
Date this summary was published	2/9/25
Date this summary will be reviewed	1/9/26
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Amy De Sybel
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr Maurice Dixon
Name of local music hub	Oxfordshire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Opera First / Garsington Opera

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.

- 1) Our fully sequenced and spiralled curriculum is founded on the school's vision of every child in every classroom in every subject deserves a world class education. This means that all students are able to access the curriculum and progress, no matter what their starting point.
SEND students are supported through explicit planning in accordance with information for individuals set out in Bromcom High Priority Student Actions, Pupil Passports, EHCPs and through careful assessment so that teachers ensure that they are meeting the needs of students of all levels, including High Potential Achievers (please note that many of our SEND students also represent this latter category).
- 2) KS3 Weekly allocation: 60 minutes, once a week
- 3) KS4 Weekly allocation: Three one-hour lessons plus instrumental tuition.

- 4) KS5 Weekly allocation: Two two-hour lessons and a one hour lesson (5 hours in total) plus instrumental tuition.
- 5) Our curriculum is designed to meet the needs of our school community and is therefore tailored very specifically so that every child can see themselves represented in the curriculum. Broadly speaking, the curriculum at all Key Stages is based on the skills of Listening, Composing and Improvising and Performing as set out in the Model Music Curriculum. Substantive and Disciplinary knowledge builds from lesson to lesson and from term to term.
 - Our school is partnered with Oxfordshire Music Hub <https://musichub.oxfordshire.gov.uk/> enabling us to offer a range of instrumental lessons and school-funded workshops and trips at a discounted rate. We also use independent instrumental teachers to fill any gaps in provision.
- 6) The school is also part of the Anthem Music Heads network and takes part in half termly curriculum development meetings to support the planning and delivery of music provision across the trust This includes 11 primary schools and 4 secondary schools throughout the UK.
- 7) The school currently offers the following courses at L2:
 - Edexcel Pearson GCSE Music
 - Edexcel Pearson GA-Level Music
 - The school employs one full time and two part time (0.41 & 0.8 FTE) music teachers. The Head of Performing Arts (Music & Drama) is a music teacher. The department is supported by a part-time (20 hours a week) technician who supports the music team with technical issues, admin and supervision of cover lessons. Staff are paid through national funding for schools.
 - The school provides a budget for the music department based on a whole school formula that takes into account the number of students taught at each Key Stage. This is spent on a mixture of administration costs, curriculum resources and musical instruments.

Part B: 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.

Students are offered the following instrumental provision.

Instrument/Voice	Selection criteria	Group/Individual	Frequency	Number of hours total
Brass	Open to all	Individual/Small Group	30 mins once a week for 35 weeks approx	17.5 hours
Drums	Open to all	Individual	30 mins once a week for 35 weeks approx	17.5 hours
Guitar	Open to all	Individual	30 mins once a week for 35 weeks approx	17.5 hours
Piano	Open to all	Individual	30 mins once a week for 35 weeks approx	17.5 hours
Singing	Open to all	Individual/Small group	30 mins once a week for 35 weeks approx	17.5 hours
Strings	Open to all	Individual	30 mins once a week for 35 weeks approx	17.5 hours

Pupil support outside lessons:

Students can practice in the four practice rooms or in the main music room every break and lunch time with a music department pass.

Jazz Band

Classical Music Club

School Musical

Extra tuition for year 11 and 13 students

The school facilitates instrumental tuition where parents pay for lessons.

Some students receive additional music tuition via the Oxfordshire Music Hub and several receive free instrumental tuition paid for by pupil premium funding.

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.

Musical experiences planned for 2025-6:

Autumn 2025

Musicals Trip to London to see Hamilton

Cross trust trip to St. Marks for Songwriting work shop

Spring 2026

Young persons London Symphony Orchestra Live at the Barbican Centre London

School Musical – High School Musical.

Opera First workshop in school, La Traviata

Summer 2026

La Traviata performance at Garsington opera 40 students across y8,9,10 and 12

Student performances at Rising Yr7 Parent and student evening and the End of term Awards evening.

In the future

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

Key priorities for 2026 onwards include:

Increasing capacity for Instrumental tuition.

Increasing collaboration with other Anthem schools such as St Marks and the Oxfordshire Music Hub.

Continuing to develop our Scholars Guides to support learning in all key stages.

Improving the facilities within the music department to include robust keyboards that don't require computers and good asset management to ensure equipment is kept in good working order.

Strengthening the KS3 music curriculum as the academic powerhouse of the academy.

Developing further group performance opportunities.