



Music Development Plan Summary: Chadsgrove School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Stephanie Wellings
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Rebecca Sabel
Name of local music hub	Worcestershire Music Education Hub/Severn Arts

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.

The following information is in addition to the details outlined in our [Curriculum Subject Plan](#) document for Music:

- Each class, from Early Years to Key Stage 4 (and all pupils on our Pre-Formal Pathway), receives one lesson per week of designated curriculum music, with a subject specialist
- Pupils on our Formal Pathway at Key Stage 4 are completing WJEC Entry Pathways in Creative Media and Performance, with a focus on music units Solo Performance and Composing Music (Entry 2/Entry 3)
- Our Post-16 Curriculum enables pupils to opt for various units within OCR's Unit Award Scheme, with the introduction of Music in September 2024. These units include awards in Music Technology, Digital Music Creation, Music Composition, Music from Other Cultures, Musical Performance and Musical Theory (for which pupils will receive certification for successful completion)
- Music Therapy is available and Alison Douglas (Music Therapy Works) is in school 1 day a week. She works with a range of pupils on our Pre-Formal Pathway, delivering both small group interventions and one-to-one sessions. For more information on our Curriculum Interventions/Specialist Provision please click [here](#)

- Our Music Department is well-resourced and includes a wide range of handheld percussion, drum kit, selection of guitars, ukuleles, djembe drums, class Samba Band kit, class set of Yamaha keyboards, 2 designated iPads (Air 5th Generation), MacBook Pro, PA speakers and microphones for performing off-site and a Soundbeam 6

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.

- Pupils in our School Choir join based on their passion for singing, and this group meets weekly as a lunchtime club. This choir regularly performs at special occasions within school, and at events within the local community, including the Catshill/Bromsgrove Christmas Lights Switch On, an annual performance at Schools in the Park (Sanders Park) and visits to local venues such as nursing homes
- ‘Busking’ is offered to the 4 classes involved in our Enrichment Sessions running on Friday afternoons. Each group runs for a term and culminates in a local performance off-site for members of the public
- Individual instrumental tuition through Severn Arts is available, when appropriate. This can be funded through parental contributions, or using Pupil Premium allowance for eligible pupils
- Our Open Orchestra Programme involves our pupils learning to play a mix of acoustic, accessible and electronic instruments (with a focus on the revolutionary Clarion). These sessions run all day every Wednesday, led by Music specialist teacher Steph Wellings and Music Technology specialist Matt Gribble, with our licence funded annually by Severn Arts. Our musicians receive one-to-one and small group tuition, as appropriate, and meet together to rehearse as a full orchestra. The creators of the Clarion (Open Up Music) have made their specialist software available to all users, and pupils involved in our Open Orchestra Programme have full access to this instrument at home, providing further opportunities for their skills to be practised and developed. For more information on Open Orchestras please click [here](#)
- Music Club runs weekly as a lunchtime club. This is open to all pupils, and involves instrumental playing and singing. Pupils are encouraged to share their personal musical tastes and are learning to appreciate different genres and styles
- We have been part of the CBSO’s Music & Ability programme for 10 years now, and this flourishing partnership enables 2 classes per term to receive 5 participatory workshops with 3 outstanding professional musicians. The final session runs as a sharing event, to which we invite the pupils’ families into school to observe the positive impact of this specialist provision on each child as an individual. For more information on our Curriculum Enrichment please click [here](#) and to read an article written by Katherine Thomas (Principal Harp) in which she reflects on successes of Music & Ability at Chadsgrove School, please click [here](#)

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.

- At least once every half-term we have a whole school Song Session, where all pupils come together to learn new songs and enjoy singing and signing as part of a large group. The whole school also sings in weekly whole-school assemblies led by individual classes or visiting speakers. Special assemblies where families receive an invitation into school, such as termly Achievement Assembly, always include opportunities for whole school and small group performances. A special Thank You assembly in the Summer term includes a performance from all pupils singing (and signing) a song learnt together
- We welcome at least one performance per year from South Bromsgrove High School, in which young musicians from their orchestra, choir and dance band entertain us all. We enjoy an annual performance from M&M Theatrical Productions, and any other opportunities for live music (for example, last year, Fizzi Duo, and shows from Level 2 and 3 music students at Kidderminster College)
- We attend the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra's regular 'Relaxed Concerts', both with a class travelling to the CBSO Centre to watch and other classes in school watching via the free online streaming of the same event. These concerts are free to us, as a school on their Music & Ability programme, and are particularly suitable for pupils on our Pre-Formal Pathway. For more information on these wonderful Relaxed Concerts please click [here](#)
- All pupils participate in a Christmas Show, to which families are encouraged to attend. These occasions are well supported, and provide a platform for our pupils to showcase their talents in front of a live audience
- Students on our Post-16 Curriculum benefit from a weekly off-site educational visit. These trips involve a wide range of activities and include the opportunity annually to see a professional show. In the past, venues have included the Palace Theatre, Redditch, Birmingham's Repertory Theatre and The Crescent Theatre
- Pupils in classes 8LS, 9US, 11US and 12US are invited to take part annually in Young Voices at Resorts World Arena (nec, Birmingham), and a group of up to 10 keen singers, dancers and signers enjoys this exciting opportunity to perform alongside a choir of 6000 young people from schools across the midlands. Participation is part funded by the parent carers of the children involved, with the event also enabling them to experience breath-taking performances by well-known singers, instrumentalists and dance troupes. For more information on Young Voices please click [here](#)
- Severn Arts run Worcestershire's 'The Big Sing' each summer term, at the University of Worcester Arena. We have taken pupils to participate in these workshops for many years, and prior to The Big Sing 2024 Chadsgrove led on the signing to accompany the material that all 48 schools involved were to prepare in advance. For more information about The Big Sing and details of Chadsgrove's direct involvement, please click [here](#)

In the Future

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

- We will further increase our pupils' access to suitable musical instruments and music technology, with the purchase of portable electronic drum pads, a one handed High D whistle, table top harp, replacement instruments for our Early Years Department and additional mounts to ensure improved positioning for those using music apps on iPads
- We plan to embed our offer of Music units from the AQA Unit Award Scheme for students on the Semi-Formal and Formal Pathways within the Post-16 Department, so that increased numbers opt for this, next academic year and beyond
- We value the outstanding experiences offered to our pupils through our involvement in the CBSO's Music & Ability programme, and will continue to make a financial contribution as a school to enable this partnership to continue to flourish
- Our recent introduction of 'Song of the Season' will encourage class teachers to extend the singing experiences offered to all pupils within their classrooms. Resources provided increase accessibility, including Signalong tutorials and exploration of song lyrics using massage strokes from the Story Massage Programme
- We will introduce a Summer Music Concert to showcase musical talent within our school, and this will provide an additional platform for both individuals and small groups to share and celebrate progress with their families and friends
- Our invitation from Severn Arts to accept re-designation as a Music Mark School confirms our commitment to providing high-quality music education, for all of our pupils

