# Music development plan summary:
# *Wednesfield Academy*

## Overview

| Detail | Information |
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| Academic year that this summary covers | 2026 - 2027 |
| Date this summary was published | September 2026 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | October 2026 |
| Name of the school music lead | Bianca Passelle-Reid |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | Kirsty Jones |
| Name of local music hub | Wolverhampton Music Service |
| 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 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.

Part A: Curriculum music

This overview outlines the music curriculum, including the weekly instructional time of one hour per week via peri lessons and a variety of music qualifications and awards that pupils may achieve, guided by the Model Music Curriculum. These include Pearsons, Wolverhampton Music services and The Rock School.

Within the music department, we are passionate about our pupils receiving access to various styles of music which in turn can enhance their musical experiences and heighten their awareness of cultures which may be obscure to them traditionally.

There is also a school musical taking place ‘Legally blonde’ and music is a part of this production. Students performing on stage have auditioned for their roles and students in musical accompaniment or backstage roles are invited to contribute if they are interested in supporting the production.

KS3 students are able to rehearse in the music practice rooms with teacher support at break times. For our KS4 learners there are varied times available throughout the week, where students are able to rehearse in smaller self-directed groups. There are also regular rehearsals during lunch times focussed on allowing KS4 students facilities to rehearse alongside p6 interventions pertaining to the qualifications they are studying.

Year 7 Curriculum Overview:

Pupils begin by learning the basics of keyboard playing, focusing on musical elements and techniques. They explore pentatonic scales through melody and chords and soon after are introduced to genres such as Rock and Roll, practicing and performing a song from that era. The curriculum also includes solo performance, building confidence and stage presence, and ensemble work, emphasizing collaboration on the keyboard and vocals.

Year 8 Curriculum Overview:

Pupils continue developing group performance skills through Blues, focusing on the 12-Bar Blues and major/minor scales and the history of Black culture in America. They explore rhythm and structure through Samba music, using percussion and keyboards, and perform in a South American style. Due to students being engrossed in the gaming culture, they will now have game music introduced as part of the curriculum which will introduce them to music technology. Solo performances involve advanced keyboard techniques and vocal work, while ensemble sessions further enhance collaboration, keyboard playing, and singing.

Year 9 Curriculum Overview:

Pupils study the history of music, covering Baroque, Classical and Romantic styles. They explore film music, creating leitmotifs for trailers, and compose their own pieces using music technology. The curriculum also includes group performance in the style of Bhangra and ensemble work focusing on various genres, building on prior skills.

Pupils in Years 7-9 learn to sing and play instruments through whole-class ensemble where scheme of learning, focuses on keyboards and percussion within units including Samba and Blues. They also develop vocal and keyboard skills in ensemble settings. Solo performance sessions enhance their vocal techniques, confidence, and keyboard abilities. Group performances in genres like Rock and Roll, Reggae, and Bhangra offer further practice, emphasizing collaboration and refining ensemble skills across various musical styles.

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We have established partnerships with Wolverhampton Music Service and employ our own peripatetic music teacher to support the curriculum through KS3 and KS4.

In Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8, and 9), the school offers a dynamic music curriculum designed to engage all pupils, including those with disabilities and special educational needs (SEND). Each week, pupils receive one hour of music instruction, focusing on various topics and practical experiences. The curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum ensuring a well-rounded approach to teaching music that incorporates diverse learning styles.

Throughout these years, pupils explore various instruments, particularly the keyboard, through whole-class ensemble teaching, especially during units like Samba and Blues. These ensemble sessions enhance collaboration and help develop essential performance skills. In addition to instrumental training, pupils are encouraged to enhance their vocal abilities through both group and solo performances, cultivating confidence and stage presence. Through these music experiences, the pupils not only develop musical skills but also gain a deeper appreciation for different musical genres and styles, setting a strong foundation for their future musical endeavours.

KS4: Y10 and Y11

Working towards their BTEC qualifications, have studio / music tech tutorials, period 6 after school interventions and free time to rehearse and refine their craft throughout the pertinent years. Students will explore genres that are relevant to their preferences as well as fundamental styles which impact subgenres in the current mainstream media.

## 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.

The school is dedicated to providing a diverse range of musical tuition opportunities that extend well beyond the standard curriculum, allowing pupils to advance their musical skills in various ways.

Pupils have the option to engage in one-to-one lessons, small-group instruction, or large-group classes, covering a broad spectrum of instruments including woodwind, piano, singing, acoustic and bass guitar, drums, brass, and strings. This flexibility in learning formats enables pupils to find the instructional method that best suits their individual learning style and needs.

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To ensure that all pupils have access to these valuable resources, tuition is subsidised through strategic partnerships with Wolverhampton Music Service. This collaboration significantly enhances accessibility, particularly for students eligible for pupil premium support, allowing them to benefit from high-quality music education without financial barriers.

Beyond individual lessons, pupils are encouraged to participate in a variety of ensembles and collaborative music-making opportunities. One of the highlights of the school's music program is the annual school musical, which features a choir and provides ample opportunities for both vocalists and instrumentalists to collaborate creatively. This experience not only hones their performance skills but also fosters teamwork and camaraderie among students.

Furthermore, individual pupils are given platforms to showcase their musical talents during three concerts held throughout the school year. Among these, a special concert dedicated to Black History Month allows pupils to explore and present music that reflects significant cultural themes and origins, enriching their understanding and appreciation of music's role in society.

Pupils are actively encouraged to join choir and ensemble groups starting from Year 7. The school provides clear and accessible information about participation, including any associated costs and the options available for subsidised involvement, ensuring that every pupil can take part regardless of their financial situation.

Additionally, rehearsal spaces are made available for pupils to practice both individually and in groups after school. This dedicated time and space for practice are essential for pupils to refine their skills, explore their musical interests, and prepare for performances. By offering such a comprehensive suite of opportunities, the school enables pupils to make significant progress in their musical education and personal development beyond the core curriculum.

## 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.

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The school is committed to providing a variety of musical experiences throughout the academic year, enhancing pupils' education and instilling a love for music. Regular performances include singing in assembly, where pupils from all year groups come together to share their talents, promoting a sense of community and enthusiasm for music.

In addition to assembly performances, pupils have opportunities to participate in specialised events, such as performing for the entire school upon entry on specific days. The school hosts two showcases each year, allowing pupils to display their musical skills in a supportive environment. Additionally, a special concert celebrating Black History Month highlights significant cultural themes through music, encouraging students to engage with diverse musical traditions. The annual school musical further provides a platform for pupils to shine, combining acting and music in a collaborative performance.

Pupils also have opportunities to attend live theatre productions, concerts, and orchestral performances when appropriate, exposing them to a range of musical experiences outside the classroom. Various workshops, including djembe and song writing sessions, are organized to enhance pupils' musical skills and creativity.

While some events may have a nominal fee, the school strives to make these experiences accessible, offering subsidised tickets for families in specific circumstances. Through these diverse musical opportunities, the school aims to nurture pupils' talents and inspire a lifelong passion for music.

## In the future

Although we are currently a sole teacher department, should a KS5 opportunity become available, we would definitely require additional teaching staff.

We also aim to broaden our individual lessons in regard to the current cohort that we have and allow for opportunities for the pupils to join local orchestras, whilst utilising further opportunities to play in our school band as and when we are hosting music event including school musicals, concerts and matrix events.

We currently host a music event at a minimum of 3 times per year and we endeavour to increase to 4 times excluding the celebration of specific cultural days throughout the year as well as arranging opportunities to visit professional performances such as the Wolverhampton Youth Orchestra at the Civic Hall in Wolverhampton and where

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possible, a visit to the Symphony Hall in Birmingham whereby multi genre performances occur will also be a focus throughout 2025. On a local scale we do hope to increase the number of seminars / masterclasses around the music industry, within school whereby we can welcome a minimum of 3 visitors per academic year.

## Further information (optional)