

Music Development Plan

2025 - 2026

Music Development Plan Summary

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	D. West
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	--
Name of local music hub	Calderdale Music Trust
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.

At Lightcliffe Academy we have developed a broad and balanced curriculum which is ambitious and provides challenge for all pupils. This work has been developed to:

- a) embed core skills needed in the subject
- b) develop and refine these skills over time.

The core concepts in music revolve around listening, composing and performing. These three threads are the same as those used in the National Curriculum model. Whilst the content is bespoke to our specific circumstances it does follow the principals of the National Curriculum.

Content covered across each year group is as follows:

Year 7 – Chords (using guitars, keyboard and ukuleles), Individual Performance (using guitars, keyboard and ukuleles), Group Performance Skills (using guitars, keyboard and ukuleles performing different parts of the same piece), and some music technology work.

Year 8 – Film Music (using keyboards and guitars), Music Technology (using PC software), and Song Writing (using keyboards, guitars, singing and PC software)

Year 9 – Game Music (using keyboards and PC software), World Music (using a variety of instruments and looking at styles from around the World that pupils do not normally access), and Reggae Music (using guitars, keyboards and vocals).

Year 10 – BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice
Component 1 – Exploring Music Products and Styles
Component 2 - Music Skills Development

Year 11 – BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice
Component 3 - Responding to a Music Brief

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.

Pupils in all year groups have the option to take part in the annual school production. These rehearse from September through to February each year, twice a week after school. The culmination of this work are a series of performances given to partner primary schools, as well as three evening performances that are open to friends, family, and members of the local community. This year the show will be Little Shop of Horrors.

A small number of pupils take private lessons through the local music trust (Calderdale Music Trust). These lessons take place on a Saturday morning at the trust's main site and provide pupils with the opportunity to work in groups with other musicians, as well as joining the ensembles they run.

Plans are also in place to form a singing group during the first term of the school year. This will run during dinnertimes to allow access to as many pupils as possible.

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.

The main experience pupils take part in is the annual production. Pupils work on this performance for half of the school for four hours each week. At the end of this they perform four shows to the public, as well as segments of the show to partner primary school. For the public performances we have to charge for tickets to cover the costs of the show rights and set hire.

A small number of pupils sing and perform at the school art show in the summer. This is free to enter.

In the summer term we will have a visiting group of performers called &Piano who will perform to several year groups in the school. They perform music from different periods of time and genres, discussing with pupils how the elements of music are used and how this influences their performance.

In the future

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

Once the singing group/choir becomes more established this year we will look to providing more performance opportunities for this group in the future. While there will be certain events in school (e.g. open evening, presentation evening, etc.) that the group can perform at, possibly outside of the school environment to help build links within the local community.

Beyond this, having pupils have access to instrument lessons during the school day is another area which we want to look at. There have been times when these have taken place, however, in recent years this has stopped again.

Further information (optional)

Calderdale Music Trust can be found online at www.calderdalemusic.co.uk. You can contact them directly via email, admin@calderdalemusictrust.org.uk, or by phoning 01422 401260.