



## Abbey Grange C of E Academy Policies & Procedures

Policy Title: Music Development Plan

<b>Approved on</b>	08.10/2024
<b>Approved by</b>	Local Governing Board
<b>Next review due</b>	01.09.2026

This is a summary of how Abbey Grange Church of England delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-curricular provision and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help students and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our students' music education. The culture of the Music department at Abbey Grange is underpinned by the Christian vision of the Academy which is:

**"We embrace Jesus' call to life in all its fullness. As a diverse community, we celebrate difference and build character through innovative and imaginative practice that seeks to transform lives. Enabling everyone to flourish means identity, purpose and value in God as we journey together."**

At Abbey Grange, the Musical provision looks to broaden the experiences of all our young people, whether in the classroom, in extra-curricular ensembles, in one to one instrumental or singing lessons, or other musical experiences such as concert trips. A key role of all Music staff is to build the Musical community of the Academy, so that it is inclusive, supportive and lifts the ambitions of the many young musicians in our care.

## **Part A: Curriculum music**

Music at Abbey Grange is taught to all key stage 3 year groups with two lessons per fortnight. The curriculum has been designed to first give students the ability to analyse and discuss music, and then introduce a variety of styles and genres to broaden the musical experience of our young people, and for them to see the various applications of music in different industries and cultures.

### **Year 7**

Autumn term – Elements of Music

Spring term – Folk Music of the British Isles

Summer term – Programme Music

### **Year 8**

Autumn term – Improvisation from around the world

Spring term – Music for the moving image

Summer term – Reggae

### **Year 9**

Autumn term – Jazz

Spring term – Popular Music

Summer term – Music for Video games

The main methods we explore to make music are through using electronic keyboards, hand percussion such as djembes, singing and through using software such as Garageband.

The curriculum at Abbey Grange has been written with reference to the Model Music Curriculum but has been modified to meet the needs of our learners and the strengths of our team.

In each unit students will develop their performance skills, their listening skills, their use of musical vocabulary and their ensemble skills. Each year there is a unit that focuses on composition. In year 7 it is Programme music, in year 8 it is Music for the Moving image, in year 9 it is Music for Video games. Music technology is used to capture ideas through the application Garageband, in which students can create, modify and refine ideas.

At key stage 4, Abbey Grange offers GCSE Music with the exam board Eduqas.

At key stage 5, Abbey Grange offers A level Music with the exam board AQA.

## Part B: Extra-curricular music

Abbey Grange offers a wide range of music performance lessons outside the classroom. We have excellent team of experienced Music practitioners to support our students on their personal musical journey.

We currently offer one to one tuition for:

**Woodwind (Clarinet, Flute, Saxophone, Oboe, Bassoon)**

**Singing (all voice types)**

**Strings (Violin, Viola, Cello, Double Bass)**

**Piano and keyboard**

**Guitar (Electric, Acoustic, Bass)**

**Drum Kit**

These lessons are priced at £90 per term with a minimum of 10 lessons guaranteed to be delivered in the term. Students receiving Pupil Premium support can have their fees covered from their funding.

Students can study towards grades in their instrument to support progress if that is the path they would like to follow.

For students receiving instrumental tuition, there are opportunities for some instruments to be loaned from school. Please see Music department staff for details.

Abbey Grange has a number of extracurricular musical activities for students to get involved in:

**Concert band (brass, woodwind and percussion)**

**Orchestra (strings, woodwind, brass and percussion)**

**Junior choir (years 7 & 8)**

**Senior choir (years 9 to 13)**

**Chamber choir (small vocal ensemble)**

**Soul band** (vocals, guitars, bass, keyboard, drum kit, brass and woodwind)

**Rock band** (vocals, guitars, bass, keyboard, drum kit)

**Worship band** (vocals, guitars, keyboards, bass, drum kit)

**Show band** (dependent on the show requirements)

**Theory Club** (working through ABRSM workbooks)

Please see Music department staff about joining extracurricular activities. All groups are free to join.

### Part C: Musical experiences

At Abbey Grange we hold three annual concerts, the Christmas concert, the Spring concert and the Summer concert. These are occasions for our extracurricular ensembles to perform and also provide opportunities for solos or small group performance from GCSE and A level Music students.

The school is a Church of England Academy and the student led worship band support in school services with music.

The school hosts an annual production, where students and staff provide live music to support the show.

Our ensembles are often invited to support events in school and out of school. We often play at our school winter fayre, and we have been invited to perform at local primary school events. We also run rehearsal days to develop performance and ensemble skills.

We look for opportunities to develop students' experience of music and so run trips to performances and training events, particularly for GCSE and A level Music students. Examples of this have been trips to shows, lectures about specific set works for analysis, and performance workshops.

### In the future

We are always looking for ways to encourage more disadvantaged students to take up music as a GCSE, A level, or by accessing instrument tuition in school. To do this we are encouraging all students to consider music as an option and looking for ways to support disadvantaged students accessing these opportunities.

For A level we would like to see greater numbers choosing music. As such we are looking for more ways to advertise music as an option and encourage KS4 students to think about music A level as a Post 16 subject.