

Music development plan summary: The Charter School Bermondsey

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	15/06/2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	15/06/2027
Name of the school music lead	Miss F. Knowles
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	n/a
Name of local music hub	South East London Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	n/a

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 our school, we deliver a diverse and high-quality music curriculum which supports our students to enjoy and engage with music. The school curriculum is guided by the national plan for music education, which sets out the government's vision to enable all children and young people in England to learn to sing, play an instrument, and create music together; and have the opportunity to progress in their skills and talents. Resources are also used from Oak National Academy to ensure the key features of the KS3 model music curriculum are covered in depth and through different means and genres.

Every KS3 student receives 55 minutes of timetabled music lessons per week. Each topic from the scheme of work (SOW) is planned for 4-6 weeks, with both formative and summative assessment built in to provide meaningful feedback. The spiral curriculum means that over the 3 years, students build on their prior knowledge and are able to develop mastery in a range of areas, from keyboard technique to music technology; singing to percussion. Each unit also provides a strong foundation for KS4 learning. There are opportunities to compose and perform individually and as an ensemble, allowing for different skills to be developed (including co-curricular skills such as confidence and teamwork). Our school values of "Belong, Believe, Become" truly shine through the music curriculum.

One aspect of teaching and learning that is particularly important in our school is considering how our approach to education is inclusive of our SEND students. Inclusion plays a key role in our school with our number of SEND students being higher than the national average and continuing to grow. Each lesson is adapted and scaffolded appropriately, including for High Prior Attainers (HPAs), to support each individual student's needs, whilst still teaching to the top and allowing all pupils to reach the same outcomes.

KS4 is not currently offered, but will be incorporated by 2027/28.

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.

At our school, we are proud to offer peripatetic lessons for years 7-11. All lessons are heavily subsidised, with Pupil Premium (PP) students getting a further 50% reduction to give everybody the same opportunities and removing financial barriers. Students are currently able to have violin and/or piano lessons. In the next academic year, we intend to introduce guitar, bass guitar, and drumkit lessons, in line with our students' requests and passions, and the relevant instruments have been bought to make this accessible to all students, not just those who can afford to have their own. This is vital to our "Belong, Believe, Become" values, as we have an above average number of PP students who should not be denied any opportunities due to money. Parents receive information about these lessons on Class Charts and fill out a simple Microsoft form with their child's name, preferred instrument, and PP status.

There are a range of musical ensembles available to students. Vocal groups include the choir, gospel choir, and musical theatre group. We also have two instrumental/vocal hybrid groups: a student-led rock band, and an ensemble group who create and rehearse different songs once a week using keyboards, percussion, and voice. Each of these groups is open to all students. We are lucky to have two music classrooms and a small practice room, meaning different groups can rehearse at the same time, or students can attend "Open classroom" (where they are able to play the keyboards in break/lunch) whilst others are rehearsing in another room or having peripatetic lessons.

Our school is also proud of our extensive and diverse enrichment programme, which is timetabled every Monday for y7-8 as well as available after school. Within this, there is a musical theatre group. At the start of the academic year, students are offered a range of enrichment activities and allocated to one after they pick a 1st and 2nd choice for each term. This is free of charge.

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.

Students have multiple performance opportunities, in and out of school. Over the past year, we have had the opportunity to work with external groups such as Gabrielli ROAR, and the Music in Secondary School Trust. In 25-26, students performed with the Gabrielli Consort at St George's Cathedral; put on a carol concert at a local farm; played the violin at Central Hall Westminster; and performed in the arts evening, school

assemblies, and talent shows. Parents must sign a consent form before these events to ensure the proper safeguarding and health & safety procedures are in place. Over the next year we hope to incorporate more partnerships and work with the local music hub to get involved with even more local opportunities.

All of these opportunities will be open to all year groups; however, for trips where a limited number can attend, students who are actively involved in the musical life of the school are more likely to be chosen.

In the future

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

2025-26 has been the start of a boom in the musical life of our school, and we intend to keep this achievement and progress growing. In subsequent years, we intend to improve the music offer available to students in and out of lessons. This change has already started, with the purchase of more instruments, including electric guitar, bass guitar, a drumkit, and djembe drums, which will be put in place September 2026. These instruments will not only be used in curriculum lessons, but students will also have the opportunity to receive peripatetic tutoring on these instruments.

Another exciting project underway is the implementation of music technology as part of our curriculum, which not only is in line with national guidance, but also provides an exciting and contrasting mode for students to experience and create music. This will be set up and ready to use by January 2027.

In the following years, we intend to grow the number of performances and events available, building on the wonderful things we and our students have achieved this year. Current plans include:

- A school play or pantomime
- Trips to watch professional performances e.g., orchestral, musicals etc.
- Open evening performance
- Creative Arts evenings
- Christmas fairs

As well as continuing 25-26 traditions such as assemblies, carol concerts, and collaborations with other organisations.