

Music development plan summary: Rossett School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	14 th November 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mr Robin Durbin
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr Pete Saunders

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 Key stage 3, students all received one hour per week of curriculum music. At Key stage 4 this rises to five hours per fortnight.

At KS3 the students follow a carefully planned curriculum that has been designed and refined by the Subject Lead for Music. The curriculum was designed using the National Curriculum for Music as a basis then developed into the bespoke learning journey that our students follow.

At KS3 students will learn and develop three main key performance skills. They will learn the keyboard, use ukuleles and sing. Keyboard skills are developed from basic knowledge of keyboard layout and staff notation at the start of Y7. This will then be developed into playing keyboard accompaniments using triads. Students will also learn to develop left-hand technique and practice independence of the hands. Students will use keyboards individually, in pairs and as part of multi-instrumental groups. Students will play ukuleles as a whole-class instrument and then use these

when working in small groups. Students will do the same with singing. Students will also use ICT to produce and compose music throughout KS3. They will learn sequencing skills and will be able to edit and refine their work using Cubase software.

Students will learn about elements of music and be able to describe their use in recorded extracts. They will learn about key characteristics of significant genres of music and experience a range of recorded music.

At KS4 students will follow the AQA GCSE Music specification through a curriculum that has been designed to support success in final examinations as well as provide broader experiences and development as musicians.

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.

We offer a programme of extracurricular music that all students are welcome to engage with. There are weekly rehearsals and a termly concert performance events along with many other smaller performance opportunities such as assemblies, presentation evenings and open events. Our current offer includes Jazz Band, Choir, Guitar Group, Woodwind Ensemble, Samba and other student-led groups.

We offer peripatetic one-to-one tuition in a range of musical instruments. Around 90 students are currently learning an instrument through school. This is around 10% of the school population. 18% of these are PP students who received up to 75% discount. Students can take graded ABRSM exams which are entered through school via their online assessment portal. We offer occasional discounted trials to Y7 students to encourage uptake.

We work closely with drama department on the whole-school production which is annual. Musicians are used to provide the band for the chosen musical. Recent productions have included Matilda, Legally Blonde and High School Musical.

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.

This year's performance opportunities will include:

- Winter Warmer Concert
- Acoustic Night Concert
- Whole-School Production
- Presentation Evening
- Open Day
- Assemblies
- Primary School Liaison
- Sports Day
- Christmas Performance at a local care home

In the future

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

Uptake and participation in music at Rossett remains buoyant in the face of the post-COVID landscape and lower numbers on role. However, numbers of students playing 'orchestral' instruments such as woodwind, brass and strings are lower than ideal. Promoting these instruments and increasing uptake is an area for development for the department.

Whilst there are plenty of performance opportunities, we would like to be able to offer trips to experience live music at nearby concert venues.

Further information

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Your local [music hub](#) should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.

If your school is part of a multi-academy trust with a trust-wide music development plan, you may also want to include a link to any published information on this plan.