

Music development plan summary: Elemore Hall School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2023-4
Date this summary was published	May 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	August 2024
Name of the school music lead	Ian Hird and Mark Harrison
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	David Lord
Name of local music hub	Durham

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.

Music is very important at Elemore Hall School. We employ a specialist teacher of Music on each of our main sites. Staff supporting lessons also have musical skills and knowledge.

All pupils study Music throughout Key Stages 3 & 4 receiving 80 minutes of timetabled lessons per week.

In Key Stage 4, all pupils work towards BTec in Music.

Music is taught in a very practical, hands-on environment with all pupils being encouraged to learn how to play different instruments as well as sing. Music generally centres around guitar, bass, keyboard and drums with pupils leaning to perform songs.

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.

The music room is open at break and lunchtimes for any and all pupils to practice pieces that they are working on in lessons or to pursue their own interests. The Music staff are skilled musicians who offer extra tuition at these times to interested pupils.

Some older pupils use the time outside lessons to offer 1:1 tuition to younger pupils.

The school has a 'band' that practices outside lesson time and is at the heart of performances.

Music is offered as an after school and evening club for pupils who want to pursue their own interests or develop further. Any pupil can come to these sessions.

We do not charge for any music lessons.

The Music rooms are well resourced and have attached practice rooms for pupils to use.

Music is seen as a very important part of the school.

Part C: Musical events

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

The school has performances several times a year where all pupils are encouraged to perform for an audience. This often involves each class group performing a song that they have learned, it may also include individual performances or mixed groups. All pupils are supportive of the performances as they all study and appreciate music.

When possible we take groups to see shows at local theatres, particularly musicals.

Within the academic year we usually have a major performance at Christmas and another at the end of the Summer Term. Every pupil is encouraged and supported to take part. Pupils who may be reluctant to perform may still be involved with the technical side of events such as preparing instruments, setting up the stage, and operating the sound mixing desk. The main performances have audiences consisting of pupils, staff, parents, carers, governors and others involved with the school or pupils.

In addition to the end of term performances there are ad-hoc smaller performances throughout the year within the Music room.

Occasionally the school has visits from Durham Music service or other music groups.

In the future

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

Music will continue to be an important part of the school and a subject on the curriculum throughout Years 7-11.

We have previously had pupils move on to study Music post16 and we continue to have this aspiration for those who are interested and we are committed to ensuring that the experiences that they have at Elemore prepare them for this destination.

The school is committed to resourcing the subject well both in terms of equipment and in staff to teach and support the subject.