



Music Development Plan: Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School

Sept 2025

Detail	Information
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Name of the school music lead	Mr J Prew
Name of the school headteacher	Mrs H Duffield
Name of local music hub	Sandwell Music Hub – SIPS Music & Arts Service
Name of Trust/Local Authority	Sandwell

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This document 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 section 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.

Currently, there is one member of staff that oversees the provision of music at Stuart Bathurst. The curriculum within music covers the main elements of music through various genres and topics, as well as building the three main skills of performing, composing and analysing throughout their musical journey. We are informed by the model music curriculum and the national plan for music education and will continue to review the curriculum yearly so that it is suitable for our pupils. The main takeaway from the model music curriculum is the assessment of the three skills/golden threads which are performing, composing and analysing.

The school website already details the long-term sequence for music for you to view, however the following topics are covered in Key Stage 3:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction to Keyboard, Notations and The Elements of Music.• African Drumming• Introduction to DAWs• The Orchestra• Introduction to Ukulele• Folk Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Eras of Classical Music• Minimalism• Blues Music• Samba• Pop Music• Composing EDM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Film Music• Industry in Practice• Reggae• Ensemble Performance• History of Contemporary Music• Composing To A Brief.

Over the course of Key Stage 3, classes are seen for one hour per week. Pupils will learn keyboard as a whole class as it is a vital skill to be able to use the keyboard for composition in conjunction with our DAW (Digital Audio Workstation) GarageBand. Learning the keyboard will also allow pupils to accompany themselves during performances. Pupils will also learn rhythmic skills through snare drum skills and percussive skills through topics such as Samba music. Assessment at Key Stage 3 takes place at the end of every half term, with either a performance, composition or listening/written component. Students are formally assessed in three learning review windows that take place in November, February and June. In music lessons, pupils receive regular and instant verbal and written feedback.

If pupils choose to take music further, they can take music as an option in Key Stage 4. Those students who choose music at Key Stage 4 have five (one hour) lessons over two weeks.

We currently run the Eduqas/WJEC Level 1/2 Vocational award in Performing Arts. This course is 100% coursework and students complete 3 units over Key Stage 4. The Level 1/2 Vocational award in Performing Arts allows students to choose the music performance or the music technology pathway.

Students learn the following at Key Stage 4:

- Unit 1: Performing
- Unit 2: Creating
- Unit 3: Performing Arts in Practice

Unit 1 and 2 are worth 30% each and are internally assessed and unit 3 is worth 40% and is externally assessed.

Pupil Premium and SEND pupils are supported through scaffolded learning approaches, as well as support sheets/task boards which are currently being developed for the curriculum next year. Due to the mixed ability nature of the classes, other pupils can also be used as mentors for their peers.

Part B: Co-Curricular Music

This section 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.

Extra-curricular activities are reviewed regularly and can be changed due to pupil demand. At the time of writing this (September 2024), we currently offer the following extra-curricular activities:

- Music Production Club
- Keyboard Club
- Choir
- Guitar Club
- School Band

All of our extra-curricular offerings are free to join and can be joined by any pupil at any time. The only exception to this is the KS4 further support club, which is open to only KS4 music students who need extra support with their coursework.

Pupils can make progress outside of lesson time with regular practice on instruments such as, drum kits, percussion instruments, guitars, ukuleles, and keyboards. The students also have access to 15 apple macs

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. For example, all year groups were given the opportunity to experience live music from a local musician who performed for them in our theatre.

Over the course of the year, pupils have the opportunity to perform in APL (Act of Prayers and Liturgy), mass and in other various events across the year. There are also various opportunities to perform at opening evenings, awards evenings and other celebration events. Pupils from all year groups can get involved in performances and opportunities, as long as they have permission from a parent/carer.

List of events in 2024 – 2025:

Rewards evening

Opening evening

School Mass

School Musical

School Concerts

In the Future

Currently, the music curriculum is reviewed at least once a year and changes have been made consistently, each with a step in the right direction towards a more holistic and suitable curriculum so that the pupils at Stuart Bathurst can achieve highly in music.

We are determined as a school to raise the profile of extra-curricular music and eventually work up to a school ensemble/band/group that regularly runs and performs in APL and concerts. We would like to provide more performances and workshops for students to give them the opportunity to experience live music and work with professional musicians.

Furthermore, we would like to update the school website and social media pages more frequently to inform parents/carers about what is happening within the music department and also any events that are coming up, or alternatively have a Performing Arts Department social media page to update parents more frequently. Currently, information is sent out in the termly newsletter and social media is updated occasionally.

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: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people>

