

Music development plan summary: [King Alfred's Academy]

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.

Students cover a wide range of Knowledge and skill-based projects of the course of KS3. These are split into performing, using voice, keyboard and ukulele, along with opportunities for performances on students own instruments, composing both using live compositional techniques and music technology and appraising music of various styles and from different cultural backgrounds.

We look at the history of west classical music and the development of pop songs alongside the historical impact of the slave trade and how music has developed in different cultures. The KAs curriculum is planned following the guidance from the national curriculum and we cover reading and writing musical notation, performing form scores and using improvisation and creating music of different styles.

Music vocabulary is taught in class from the beginning of year 7 and builds on the curriculum taught throughout the primaries of the Cambrian Trust. Lessons across KS3 are sequenced to develop skills and knowledge incrementally year on year and lead into the GCSE and A level courses.

We offer music as a GCSE, following the edexcel syllabus and this continues to A level study, also with edexcel.

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 range of Extra curricular opportunities throughout the week working with teachers from Oxfordshire County Music Service and 'Drum Beats' as well as having a number of private peripatetic staff teaching instrumental lessons each week. We currently has lessons in Violin, Cello, Guitar, Drums, Piano, Flute and Voice and are always open to adding instruments to this list if students are interested.

Practise spaces are made available for students to use during lunchtimes and study periods so students can further develop their passion for music in a less formal setting.

We offer different opportunities for students are develop their ensemble skills throughout the week with staff and student lead ensembles. And we offer students opportunities to play in concerts once a term, both ins school and in the local community. We run an annual musical production and students have the opportunity to perform of stage and a part of the 'band' on large musical productions including We Will Rock You, In The Heights, High School Musical and Return to the Forbidden Planet to name a few form recent years.

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.

GCSE and A level students are invited each year to go to London to see 'Wicked' to allow them to fully understand the music that they study for GCSE and we advertise local events that students might be interested in going to in Oxford. National courses for singing and orchestral development are also advertised as well as additional courses such as the additional composition course offered at Burford School.

Pupil Premium students are eligible for free instrumental tuition and this offer has a good take up from students, even if they have not chosen to study music formally beyond KS3.

A number of our students participate in local and national ensembles including playing with Wantage Silver Band, Oxford County Orchestras and Thames Valley Youth Orchestra.

In the future

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

We are constantly updating SOW to allow students to access relevant and interesting music. The introduction of Whole Class Ukelele choir is and example of the new project for this year as well as the year 7 singing project which we introduced 3 years ago. I

have just introduced using BandLab technology at year 8 and hope to develop this further over the next few years.

We have plans to update the physical space on West Site over then next couple of years with the intention of teaching music once a week in the future.