

Music development plan summary: Weston Favell Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	01/03/25
Date this summary will be reviewed	01/09/25
Name of the school music lead	Carole Lyttle
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Helen Furniss
Name of local music hub	Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

Weston Favell Academy provides an extensive, diverse and progressive music curriculum for all children including pupil premium and SEND students; curricular and co-curricular. Our curriculum intent at Weston Favell is to develop an aspirational, knowledge based and carefully sequenced curriculum that enables all learners to acquire and demonstrate deep knowledge through an interconnected web of ideas and concepts underpinned by knowledge and experience of vocabulary, cultural capital, SMSC and British Values. The teaching staff are experienced and have deep expertise in a number of curriculum areas.

Our school music curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum (2021), the National Curriculum (Music Programmes of Study: Key Stage 3), with clear reference to the National Curriculum in our planning for each topic building on Key Stage 2. This

yearly programme is delivered through outstanding music teaching and leadership making Weston Favell Academy a leading light in music education within the local community. We are regularly recognised for our dedication to our partnered local music hub NMPAT and are a Music Mark school, for the fourth year in a row. We are always continuing to adapt and develop our Music Curriculum Plan to ensure students are achieving the best possible outcomes. We review this based upon the National Plan for Music Education (NPME) 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
- Have the opportunity to progress their musical interests and talents, including professionally Weston Favell Academy meets the following guidance in relation to the National Plan for Music Education for Curriculum Music:
 - Timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1-3: Students receive timetabled curriculum music of one hour each week of the school year for KS3 (Year 7-9).

There is a cohesive music curriculum in place, one that details the three pillars of musical curriculum (technical, constructive, expressive) in design and builds on prior learning. The curriculum clearly reflects the intent, implementation and impact for music education, with excellent provision in Key Stage 3 preparing students for Key Stage 4 Music. There is also evidence and data to support the impact of the music curriculum in children making significant progress throughout their time in school. Students explore a wide range of instruments during lesson time through whole-class ensemble teaching in all year groups. This includes an opportunity to sing and play instruments such as the keyboard, ukulele, and world music instruments. Each classroom space has a set of PCs with Cubase and Sibelius software for the students to experience using a DAW and create music using technology. We explore a broad and balanced curriculum to ensure there are areas of focus within Western Classical Music, Film Music, 20th Century Music, Popular Music, Music Technology, Musical Traditions and the Musical Elements.

Weston Favell Academy is in partnership with the local music hub NMPAT in providing 1-1 musical tuition for our students and workshops for small groups.

KS4 Music students are currently following the BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice course.

Music Qualifications

At Weston Favell, we offer students the opportunity to study Music at Key Stage 4. We currently follow the Pearson Edexcel BTEC Tech Award which is split into 3 components of Exploring Music Products and Styles, Music Skills Development and Responding to a Music Brief. This is a predominantly coursework-based course with the first 2 components being internally marked and externally moderated. These make up 60% of the overall grade. The third component is completed in strict supervised conditions, where students respond to a brief set by the board in Year 11 of the course.

The brief is different every year and, to that extent, is the exam element of the course. This is worth the remaining 40% of the overall grade.

The BTEC Tech Award provides pupils with the opportunity to develop sector-specific applied knowledge and skills within realistic vocational contexts. It enables pupils to develop essential skills that demonstrate their' aptitude in music, such as responding to a musical brief using appropriate musical skills and techniques. Pupils will also learn about the processes that support effective working methods in the music sector, including the development of musical ideas and the application of skills and techniques during rehearsal, creation, production, and performance, personal management and communication. Finally, the BTEC Tech Award provides pupils with foundational knowledge of a variety musical skills, ensembles, instrumental techniques, compositional and styles. Styles of music covered in the qualification includes popular music from the 1950s to 1990s, world music, fusion, film and TV music, computer games, western classical music, jazz and blues.

Students are also encouraged to complete Graded Music Exams at all ages with their peripatetic teachers at all Key Stages and which also award UCAS points which can support University entries.

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.

Weston Favell Academy meets the following guidance in relation to the National Plan for Music Education for Co-Curricular Music:

Students have access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice:

There are instrumental lessons available across several families of instruments, we offer lessons in: Strings, Guitar, Drums, Voice and Keyboard/Piano, Woodwind, Brass and Music Technology. Pupil premium students are encouraged to access instrumental lessons with a high percentage of students engaging as the school supports in fully subsidising instrumental lessons.

A school choir and/or vocal ensemble:

There is currently a non-auditioned school choir with several students across all ages from Year 7- Year 13, these students have performed in and outside of school at a number of events within the school calendar including Carol Services in local Churches of a variety of denominations.

A school ensemble band/group:

There are several students including pupil premium and SEND students engaging in school ensembles which include Choir, Brass Band, String Group, Keyboard Club, Guitar ensemble, Drum group. Students are also encouraged to perform in ensemble settings within the classroom. There is no cost for attending bands or ensembles.

Space for rehearsals and individual practice:

There are several practice rooms used for rehearsals and individual practise and are set up for the purpose of music exclusively. Students are encouraged to use and book these at lunchtime and can use them before and after school. These are also used in lesson time to facilitate individual and ensemble practice.

A termly school performance:

Students are encouraged to showcase their musical talent at whole school events and evenings e.g open evening and The Deco presentation awards evening. There are opportunities to perform within the school calendar including a Christmas Carol Services and an Annual Concert. Regular performances for all students in a classroom setting are evidenced through curriculum planning.

Opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year:

The school engages with offers from local organisations that offer live ensemble and theatre performances. The department also endeavours to organise a live performance at least once a year outside of the local area. Progression in Music beyond the core curriculum Musical progression is evaluated using data regarding pupil progress. Musical opportunities are shared with the school actively seeking opportunities for pupils, targeting individuals who have a particular strength or interest. A range of careers in Music and the Arts are introduced to students as part of the curriculum provision. Core Competencies for Careers are discussed and how these link to the subject. As stated earlier in the previous section, students can complete instrument grade exams (ABRSM) with their peripatetic teachers if they choose to have one to one instrumental lessons as provided by NMPAT. We have students outside of school time attending NMPAT's music centre in Northampton, with some being included at County level.

Music Tuition

Our Music Tuition is currently provided by NMPAT our local music hub, this is delivered by our peripatetic teachers in the following instruments: Strings, Keyboard/Piano, Guitar (Bass, Electric, Acoustic, Ukulele), Voice, Drums. There is a number of payment options to ensure that lessons are accessible to all students. Pupil premium students receive 50% subsidy to encourage more pupil premium students to be able to receive instrumental lessons, we also offer further help and support to those who have taken Music GCSE as an option.

We have students outside of school time attending NMPAT's music centre in Northampton.

If you have any further questions about the costing for the music tuition, please contact the school's Music Department.

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.

At Weston Favell Academy regular events are planned within the academic year for Music. These include performances in the Atrium, concerts including the Christmas Carol Service, Annual Concert and School Show. Trips outside of school ensure the students are provided with a wide variety of opportunities. We arrange musical performances, concerts and shows for all year groups, this can be a particular focus on a certain year group based on the link to the curriculum or for exam group students. We strive to ensure all students invited on a trip can attend and will accommodate where possible e.g. visit to local college for Music experience which involves Music Production and sessions on the Music Industry. We have been provided previously with free workshops through our local music hub NMPAT in school and have also been offered opportunities from further education organisations such as colleges to offer students an experience in Music.

In the future

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

We are always improving and reviewing Music within the school both curricular and co-curricular. We would like to provide more opportunities for students to see live performance outside of school to ensure they have more musical experiences. We aim to offer more in-school music workshops from external providers. We are planning to provide more opportunities for groups and ensembles and be able to showcase this by performing in school more regularly.

Further information (optional)

Please see link to our local music hub partner NMPAT for more information: [Home - NMPAT](#) or www.nmpat.co.uk