

Music development plan summary: Springfield School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Joanne Latif
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music	Joanna Goodship
Name of local music hub	Portsmouth Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s)	Portsmouth Music Academy

This document is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-curricular provision, and musical experiences – and what we are planning to do in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents and 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.

Key Stage 3

Pupils in Years 7 and 8 have one Music lesson (1 hour) each week. The curriculum reflects the aims of the National Curriculum for Music and is heavily focused on learning about and interacting with the elements of music.

Pupils' learning takes place as practically and as musically as possible. Understanding of the elements of music, and theoretical and subject knowledge (including key vocabulary and musical notation closely aligned to the Model Music Curriculum, March 2021) are developed through performing, composing, improvising, arranging and listening activities which are integrated as far as possible in line with best practice guidance (National Curriculum for Music).

In curriculum lessons, all pupils learn to play music on the keyboard primarily, with opportunities to develop singing, percussion and guitar based skills in addition, working on solo and ensemble performing skills.

From time to time we welcome external professional musicians and music educators, often organised via Portsmouth Music Hub, to work on classroom-based projects, or to deliver workshops to groups of pupils.

Key Stage 4

All pupils in Year 9 have one Music PDL lesson (1 hour) each week for about 10 weeks of the year as part of a rotation with Art, Drama and REP. This is in addition to the GCSE allocation for pupils who have chosen Music as an option. Pupils can opt to study Music at GCSE level from year 9 and follow the Eduqas GCSE qualification. Pupils who choose to opt for Music GCSE in Years 9 and 10 have five (1 hour) Music lessons every two weeks. Pupils who have chosen to study GCSE Music in Year 11 currently have three (1 hour) Music lessons each week.

**From September 2025, all key stage four classes will have five (1 hour) Music lessons every two weeks.*

Further information about the school's Music curriculum is published on the school website:

[Music Learning Journey](#) - Key Stage 3 and 4 curriculum content, skills and knowledge overview

[Options Booklet](#) - Key Stage 4 GCSE specification overview

Access for SEND pupils

The Music department follows the whole school policies in place to support SEND pupils and staff are kept informed of individuals' learning needs via SEND plan documents. Teaching is adapted responsively to cater for all pupils' learning needs to allow all to access the curriculum at an appropriate level, and to experience the highest possible levels of success. Strategies are wide ranging and often include, for example, the use of differentiated repertoire, notations/playing by ear and technical challenges, scaffolding, peer/staff support.

Further information about how the school is increasing access for disabled pupils and supporting pupils with special educational needs (SEND) is published on the school website:

[School Accessibility Policy](#) - Access to the curriculum for pupils with a disability.

[School SEND Policy](#) - Sections for departments and teachers.

All Music lessons are taught by qualified, specialist Music teachers in two dedicated Music classrooms which provide pupils with access to a range of acoustic and electronic instruments, computers and several practice rooms.

Part B: Extra-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.

Springfield works in partnership with a local music tuition provider [Portsmouth Music Academy](#) to offer pupils after school lessons in piano, guitar, bass guitar, drum kit and singing. These lessons can be on-to-one, but are mainly taught in small groups. There is a cost to parents/carers for these lessons. Qualifying pupils have the lesson costs subsidised by pupil premium funding. There is the opportunity for pupils to take graded music exams where appropriate.

Music staff organise and support pupils' musical development and enjoyment in extra-curricular activities such as vocal ensembles for choir events, performing in school productions/musicals, pop/rock groups and other instrumental and singing skills practice. GCSE pupils attend sessions outside of lesson time to support their musical studies.

All pupils are welcome to come and use the departmental facilities for their own music making projects, and to practise individually or in groups during break and lunch times. These opportunities are open to pupils in all year groups, whether or not they have taken GCSE Music.

Springfield supports the out-of-school, extra-curricular offers made via the Portsmouth Music hub, and promotes these to pupils and parents as they occur. Pupils' participation and achievements in extra-curricular activities are frequently celebrated in the Springfield News.

Part C: Musical experiences

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

In addition to musical experiences for pupils organised by school staff, we take advantage of opportunities organised by the [Portsmouth Music Hub](#) and sometimes draw on the expertise of other professional musicians and providers.

These experiences offer pupils taking part (and sometimes those who are not performing, but who are in the audience) the chance to enjoy live performances, listening to, or playing/singing alongside performers from other schools, as well as more advanced and professional musicians.

Planned experiences for 2024-25 currently include:

School production (open to all pupils)

Year 7 Singing Competition event (whole cohort)

Year 8 Singing Competition event (whole cohort)

Musical Showcase concert (open to all pupils)

Soundsational Concert at Portsmouth Guildhall (open to all pupils)

Year 9 'We Compose' project and live concert at Portsmouth Guildhall

Year 8 percussion workshops

In addition, there are frequent opportunities for pupils to perform music at school based events such as awards assemblies, open evenings, the sports day opening ceremony, outdoor 'decking gigs', as well as others for the local community, such as the stakeholders' buffet, feeder school events and singing for care home residents.

There is no charge to pupils for being involved in Music department events, rehearsal trips, performances and concerts, although parents/carers purchase audience tickets from venues as necessary.

In the future

The school's music curriculum is constantly being reviewed and updated, and is adapted where necessary to suit the needs of pupils and to support the current whole school improvement priorities, which include adopting a stronger emphasis on supporting pupils' literacy within music lessons, implementing consistent classroom routines and relational practices to support effective learning, offering more opportunities for pupil leadership and to celebrate diversity, equality and inclusion, and enhancing the professional development and expertise of all staff.

Staff routinely work on developing and delivering the highest quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the relevant, key features in the [National Plan for Music Education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week for pupil in Key Stage 3
- offer a GCSE Music course to pupils in Key Stage 4
- provide access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- offer opportunities to be part of a school choir or vocal ensemble
- offer opportunities to be part of a school ensemble, band or group
- provide space for rehearsals and individual practice outside of lesson time
- continue to provide a number of opportunities per term for pupils to perform
- provide pupils with the opportunity to experience and enjoy live performances

Further information

To find out more about our local music hub, including information on how pupils can join one of their free musical ensembles, please click here:

[Portsmouth Music Hub](#)

To find out more about our local music tuition academy, including information on how to sign up for our after-school music lessons, please click here:

[Portsmouth Music Academy](#)

To read more information published by the Department for Education please click here:

[National Plan for Music Education](#)

[Guide for Parents and Young People](#)

[Secondary Music Poster](#)