

Music development plan summary:

Stour High School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Oliver Poole
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Jane Thornton
Name of local music hub	Gloucestershire Music
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. The Seven Features of High Quality Music Provision are highlighted in bold within the text.

Part A: Curriculum music

Music is currently delivered by two music specialists who are highly qualified and experienced teachers. The department is led by Oliver Poole (full-time) and Amy Bowman (part-time – 0.8). The Music Department has one well-equipped teaching room, a smaller classroom for A-Level music provision, five practice rooms (shared with Marling School) and a music recital hall (shared with Marling School). There is **space** for rehearsals and individual practice.

Music classrooms are equipped with keyboards, computers with Sibelius software and a teaching piano. Ukuleles, drum kits, guitars, amplifiers and a variety of pitched and unpitched percussion instruments are also available for use. Some music lessons are delivered in a computer room, equipped with MIDI keyboards, Sibelius software and Studio One software.

There is **timetabled curriculum of at least one hour each week** of the school year for key stages 3. Our KS3 Music Curriculum has been designed to engage, inspire and challenge students, on composing, performing, listening and appraising and to build upon prior knowledge at KS2. All KS3 topics are underpinned by the key terms and devices associated with the elements of music. Through listening, performing and composing, students apply their understanding of melody, harmony, tonality, structure, sonority, texture, tempo, metre, rhythm, dynamics and articulation to a variety of musical styles covering a broad range of periods and cultures.

The KS4 / KS5 Music curricula are governed largely by the Eduqas GCSE and A Level Music syllabi.

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.

Peripatetic lessons include:

- Drums
- Violin
- Viola
- Cello
- Voice
- Piano
- Electric / acoustic guitar
- Clarinet
- Flute
- Brass
- Music theory

There is **access to lessons** across a range of instruments, and voice. Students who are in receipt of Pupil Premium or are experiencing financial hardship can apply to the school for financial support for Peripatetic instrumental or voice lessons. All students studying GCSE and A Level Music have access to appropriate peripatetic instrumental or voice lessons.

There are multiple **school choirs** and/or **vocal ensembles, bands and groups**. Extra-curricular groups include:

- Junior choir
- Senior choir
- Junior chamber choir
- Senior chamber choir
- Sixth Form A Cappella group
- Junior Orchestra
- Senior Orchestra
- Junior Jazz Band
- Senior Jazz Band
- Junior Strings ensemble
- Senior Strings ensemble
- Whole Year group choir
- Glee Club
- Band Club
- Brass ensemble
- Cello group

- Harmony Scholars group
- Klezmer group
- School production band

There are also music department trips to watch performances and enrichment activities with visiting professional musicians.

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.

Musical events occur frequently during the academic year, with all Key Stages participating in a concert on a termly basis:

- Junior Christmas Concert
- Senior Christmas Concert
- Junior Spring Concert
- Senior Spring Concert
- Summer Concert
- A Level Recital Evening (Y12)
- A Level Recital Evening (Y13)
- House Music (whole school)
- Music tours (annual)
- Whole-school musical production
- Workshops (e.g. vocal, Indian Classical Music, songwriting)
- Performances in the wider community
- Performances in celebration assemblies (every year group, every half term)

All students have the opportunity to enjoy **live performance** at least once a year.

In the future

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

The provision at Stroud High School for music goes way beyond the Seven Features of High Quality Music Provision. In the first instance we aim to maintain the provision already offered and also the high levels of recruitment and retention in curricular music and extra-curricular musical activities. We will continue to review the breadth of our musical activities and ensure that it supports the needs of our diverse school community.

