

Music development plan summary: George Spencer Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Jane Brown
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mairead Kell Jonathan Dakers
Name of local music hub	Inspire

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.

KS3

- Pupils receive 1 hour of music per week.
- In years 7 and 8 students are taught in forms.
- In year 9 students are taught in mixed groups.

Students learn to listen, play, analyse and compose music through the KS3 curriculum which is based on the Model Music Curriculum (published by the department of education March 2021) and the National Curriculum.

Projects during KS3 music focus on different genres of music whilst simultaneously teaching, and embedding the musical elements and a range of instruments including percussion, ukuleles and keyboards plus using voice as an instrument. Within these projects students learn to perform as soloists and as part of an ensemble. Students also study the use of music technology to support them in composing their own music.

We have recently introduced the use of music technology into a range of our KS3 projects which includes the use of industry specialist software such as CUBASE and

Muse Score. This gives students the opportunity to use specialist software to prepare them for industry roles and also gives them a strong base for GCSE and A-Level.

KS4

- Pupils receive 3 hours of music per week.
- They study GCSE Music following the Eduqas specification.

[GCSE MUSIC - SPECIFICATION](#)

The curriculum for this course consists of preparing students for the 3 components including: performing, composing and appraising, plus developing understanding of the four areas of study which includes; Musical Forms and Devices, Music for Ensemble, Film Music and Popular Music

KS5

- Pupils receive 5 hours of music per week.
- They study A-Level Music following the Eduqas specification.

[A level specification template](#)

The curriculum for this course consists of preparing students for the 3 components including: performing, composing and appraising, plus developing understanding of the three areas of study which includes; The Western Classical Tradition, Into the Twentieth Century and a choice from Rock and Pop. Musical Theatre or Jazz.

Both the GCSE and A-Level courses allow students to develop performance skills (as both soloists and part of an ensemble), composition skills and listening and appraising.

Part B: Extra-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

Peripatetic tuition is available during the school for individual students in a range of instruments including; singing, drums, guitar, flute, piano and violin. There is also the opportunity to take part in 'Flute group' which is an ensemble group led by the peripatetic flute teacher.

Where students wish to undertake study in other instruments we will seek to find suitable peripatetic teachers to work with the school to provide this.

Students that are eligible for Pupil Premium receive support to subsidise the cost of lessons.

TEACHER LED

The department offers a range of ensembles that are freely available to pupils in all year groups. These include 'School Band', 'Rock and Pop Group' and 'Swing

Band.' The department also stages the yearly production with the drama department where 'Production Band' provide the soundtrack for our actors. Pupils are also encouraged to make use of our dedicated practice rooms during their break times, lunchtimes and afterschool to write their own music, practice their instruments and prepare their performances.

INDIVIDUAL

The department offers practice spaces for students every day at break time and lunchtime. These can be booked out so students can rehearse as soloists or as part of an ensemble.

Within the department students are able to access PA systems and microphones, drum kits, electric guitars, acoustic guitars and electric piano/keyboards

Any students wishing to get involved in any activities should speak with the Head of Music, Mrs Brown

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.

Planned events - What, who, when, access

Event title	Where is it	When is it	Who is involved	Who is watching	Information
Christmas concert	School		Students from all year groups	Parents/ carers and students	Ticketed event
Carol Concert	Local church	December	Students from all year groups	Local community	Ticketed event
School Production	School	March	School Band	Parents/ carers and students	Ticketed event
Summer concert	School	July	Students from all year groups	Parents/car ers Students	Ticketed event

Other opportunities

Event title	Where is it?	When is it	Who is involved
Masterclasses	In school with visiting practitioners	Ongoing throughout the year	Local community musicians and students
Trips	Various locations	Ongoing throughout the year	Students
Community visits	Local care homes	Ongoing throughout the year	School Band
Concert	Albert Hall, Nottingham	April	Students and primary feeder schools

In the future

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

As we build on our already successful department over the next year we hope to:

- Continue to build links with the wider local community through external events and opportunities
- Evolve, and widen, our peripatetic offer based on the interests of students and parents
- Create a cross-key stage choir to encourage students to use their voices as an instrument and build relationships across years
- Build connections with feeder schools through cross-school musical activities e.g choir, partake in annual concerts