

# Music Development Plan Summary

## The South Wolds Academy and Sixth Form

Academic year that this summary covers: 2025-2026

Date this summary was published: January 2026

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Name of the school music lead: Tom Manning

Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music – Nick Levack

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

#### Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9)

Timetabled music lessons are provided for all students, with one hour of curriculum music per fortnight. The curriculum includes:

Year 7 Topics: Elements of Music, Keyboard Skills, Chinese Music, Ukuleles, and Composing with Technology.

Year 8 Topics: Samba, Blues, Reggae, Rap, and Composing with Technology.

Year 9 Topics: Techno Music, Songwriting, Film Music, and Popular Music.

These topics integrate performing, composing, and appraising, with activities ranging from group performances to composing using DAW software. Lessons are tailored to include all learners, with tailored support for students with SEND.

#### Key Stage 4 (Years 10-11)

Students can opt to study GCSE Music (Eduqas), which includes components in performance, composition, and appraising. Topics cover the Western Classical Tradition, popular music, and film music. Students develop skills in both solo and ensemble performance, and instrumental/vocal tuition is offered to support their coursework requirements.

## Key Stage 5 (Years 12-13)

We offer A-level Music (Eduqas) and BTEC Music. These courses enable students to specialize in performing, composing, and appraising music across genres such as Western Classical, Jazz, Musical Theatre and Rock and Pop. Students also explore advanced music theory, composition techniques, and analytical skills, preparing them for careers in music and further education opportunities.

**SEND and Vulnerable Learners:** In the music department, we aim to enhance access for students with special educational needs (SEND) through the implementation of various inclusive strategies:

**1. Scaffolded instruction:** Our music curriculum is tailored to cater to the diverse needs of SEND students. Teachers employ a variety of approaches to accommodate different learning needs and abilities, ensuring effective engagement with the curriculum for every student.

**2. Specialist support:** We have teaching assistants trained in SEND who collaborate regularly with classroom teachers to offer additional support as needed. These teaching assistants provide one-on-one assistance tailored to specific needs where needed. The department regularly communicates with the school's SENDCo team and support staff to share insights and strategies for supporting students and ensures a cohesive approach to each student's education.

**3. Extracurricular** Students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are encouraged to actively participate in our extracurricular music program. Our department is committed to inclusivity, ensuring that every student, regardless of their individual challenges, can explore and enjoy music. We believe that music is a universal language that can bridge gaps and forge friendships across year groups.

## Part B: Co-Curricular Music

### Instrumental and Vocal Tuition

We offer one-to-one and small-group tuition on a wide range of instruments, including piano, guitar, strings, woodwind, brass, and percussion. Vocal lessons are also available. Tuition fees are subsidised for families eligible for pupil premium funding.

### Ensembles and Groups

Rock School: Open to all students, fostering skills in contemporary music performance.

Choirs: Includes a general choir for singers, open to all ages and abilities.

Jazz Band: Suitable for more experienced musicians and singers covering a range of styles in a jazzy style

## **Practice and Rehearsal Spaces**

Dedicated practice rooms are available during and after school for individual and group rehearsals. These spaces are equipped with keyboards, percussion instruments, and amplification equipment.

## **Part C: Musical Experiences**

### **School Performances**

Christmas Concert: Features seasonal music, choirs, and ensembles.

Spring Performances: Highlight student achievements in solo and ensemble work.

Summer Festival: An outdoor celebration of music across all year groups, showcasing a wide range of performances from bands, choirs, and soloists.

## **In the Future**

### **Curriculum Development**

Expand the use of technology in music lessons with updated notation and DAW software.

### **Co-Curricular Opportunities**

Launch a pupil premium incentive for disadvantaged students to access funded/part funded instrumental lessons.

### **Musical Experiences**

Promote and arrange concerts in assemblies of local feeder/primary schools for some of our ensembles to perform in assemblies/concerts.

### **Further Information**

For more details, please contact Tom Manning, Music Lead, at [tmanning@southwolds.uk](mailto:tmanning@southwolds.uk)