

# Music development plan summary: Milton Keynes Academy

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	June 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2026
Name of the school music lead	Olivia Chopping
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Sangeeta Shergill
Name of local music hub	BMLK HUB
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Music Cooperative

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.

Our curriculum is based around the key areas of singing, playing, improvising, composing and listening. “Curriculum music is, fundamentally, about all students developing their musical understanding. This must be done through creative, practical exploration of sounds and music – we are not talking about passive musical appreciations. But it is about understanding, getting to know how music works, and how it therefore conveys meaning.” (Rogers, 2019).

At KS3 all students have one hour of classroom taught music a week with the opportunity to use a variety of instruments including keyboards, and percussion. The students use these instruments and singing to gain knowledge, understanding and experience of a rich and varied curriculum that celebrates diversity and culture within the expressive arts. we aim to give all learners the knowledge and cultural capital to succeed in life.

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high-quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity, and sense of achievement. As pupils progress, they will develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with distinction, and to the best of their ability.

We also use Band Lab to introduce students to music production and composition skills.

KS4 students have the option to continue with their music education and gain a Pearson BTEC Qualification in music. This course has been chosen to allow all students, regardless of prior experience, to access the course composing, performing, and music production.

To further support students in developing their knowledge and skills in Music we have Music practice rooms with pianos, guitars, bass guitars, and drums available.

In addition to this we offer fully funded one-to-one peri music lessons.

At MKA we passionately believe in music for all, which is at the heart of all the decisions we make about the music curriculum, including offering fully funded peri-lessons for all students who are interested in developing skills with a particular instrument, inc voice / singing coaching.

To support students with additional needs we plan and adapt our lessons using appropriate strategies to ensure that all students have the opportunity to experience making progress in their lessons.

This link takes you to the bridging document that explains the sequence of learning from year 7 – year 11 - [CET Curriculum Development Bridging Music - 2021 update.docx](#)

## 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.

### **Extra-Curricular Opportunities.**

To further support students in developing their knowledge and skills in Music we have dedicated Music practice rooms with pianos, guitars, bass guitars, and drums available.

In addition to this we offer fully funded one-to-one peri music lessons.

Performance Club Lunchtime Club with Mrs Dorrian is open to all interested students.

Singing & Keyboard Lunchtime Club with Miss Wallen-Lewis.

We take part in the CET Choir and Orchestra which is a fantastic experience for students who are learning instruments or are part of the choir to join with other musicians from CET and to experience working and performing in a large ensemble. The CET choir is directed by Dr Charles MacDougall who is a renowned professional singer and works with ABRSM Voices. Currently MKA is represented in the choir and a singing ambassador who rehearses a piece of Classical music with Mezzo Soprano Camille Maalawy. The CET Trust runs a prestigious programme of Orchestra and Choral Master classes.

## **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 MKA we host Talent Shows where students can perform their skills to their teachers and peers, this is a very popular event with many students proudly performing music individually and in small group.

## **In the future**

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

At MKA the music department would like to continue to grow with more students learning to play an instrument and taking part in extracurricular activities, especially SEND & PP students.