

# Music development plan summary: St Paul's Academy

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	Nov 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	Sep 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mr B Barrett
Name of local music hub	Royal Greenwich Music Service

This 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 changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what St Paul's 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.

All students in Key Stage 3 (Y7-Y9) received weekly 50-minute music lesson.

The curriculum is informed by the DfE's model music curriculum and is designed to offer all students broad musical knowledge and experience of different times and cultures, genres, artists, instruments and technologies.

All lessons involve active participation in music making, be that on keyboard, xylophones, through singing or drumming. Whole-class ensemble playing is a regular feature of our lessons.

We have a partnership with Goldsmiths University, through which we enhance our students experience with specialists in composition, instrumental performance, and music literacy.

In Key Stage 4, students study towards a GCSE in Music (Eduqas C660QS).

## **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.

All students at St Paul's have the option to receive one-to-one music tuition on piano, voice, guitar, bass guitar or drum kit.

At GCSE, all instrumental tuition is 100% subsidised.

Other activities available to students include the weekly school choir, two lunchtime keyboard clubs and a school band. All clubs are offered free of charge, and there are no barriers to entry beyond simply turning up.

Since March 2025, we have been trialling flute lessons in small groups with the aim of diversifying our instrumental tuition offer and broadening the aspiration of our students. Cello lessons are due to follow in the spring term of 2026

To help students make the best progress, we also offer instrumental loans for those who have difficulty affording an instrument.

Of course, practice is essential to good musical development. For this reason, we provide practice rooms for our students which can be booked for personal use.

We are pleased to be supported by the Royal Greenwich Music Service, who provide our flutes and cellos.

## **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.

Experiencing live music performance is important to us.

Every year, we aim provide several opportunities for our students to perform and otherwise experience live music. The main events are:

- Arts Showcases
- Feast Day
- Cultural Day

Every year group is encouraged to get involved, with audition and sign-ups publicised in advance through our online platforms and during arts lessons (music, dance, drama).

We have also visited the Queen's House Concerts, organised by Trinity Laban. We intended to continue our engagement with this series of intimate live classical concerts, as these present a unique opportunity for students to experience fine music up close.

Most of our live events are heavily subsidised. Our in-school concert tickets are charged below £3.

## **In the future**

We are on the path improving music opportunities for all our students.

We have recently expanded the offer to a whole lesson per week for KS3 students.

We aim to:

- Provide curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3. This is dependent on our wider school timetabling, but something we are working towards.
- Expand the range of instruments available by September 2026
- Provide all students with an experience of live music performance once per year at a minimum by September 2026