

Music development plan summary: Gosforth Junior High Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024/26
Date this summary was published	26.3.25
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 26
Name of the school music lead	M. Lewis
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	n/a
Name of local music hub	Music Partnership North

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 music curriculum is informed by the National Curriculum for Music (2013) and the Model Music Curriculum (2021)

It is our intention that:

- we make music an inspiring, exciting and enjoyable learning experience which develops our pupils' musical skills and life skills
- our pupils gain a firm understanding of what music is, through singing, listening, evaluating, composing and performing
- our pupils enjoy music and use their acquired musical skills, knowledge and experiences to engage with music in a variety of contexts during their time here and beyond

This will be implemented by:

- delivering high quality music lessons
- providing a well-resourced and inspirational music department
- providing a range of instrumental tuition opportunities
- creating opportunities to participate in a range of performances
- creating opportunities for musical visits on and off-site

The impact will be that pupils will:

- reach age-related expectations
- develop a deeper understanding around a broad range of music
- develop an understanding of the methods and skills of musicians, at an age-appropriate level
- understand the elements of music
- use music-specific language
- perform with confidence
- be able to sing a variety of songs
- read basic staff notation
- compose short pieces of music
- improvise with confidence
- participate in wider musical activities
- be confident in discussing music, their own work and identifying their own strengths and areas for development
- have confidence as they continue into the next phase of their musical learning journey

Gosforth Junior High Academy provides a broad and varied Music Curriculum for Key Stages 2 and 3. Music at GJHA comprises of one 50-minute period of music per week, taught in form groups, with the following topics being studied in a modular style throughout the year. Each module is assessed at the end of the topic, with the assessment based on a performance, a composition, a test of knowledge or a combination of these. Students study ukulele, singing and other instruments, such as drums and percussion, throughout the four years.

Year 5	Elements of Music	Singing / Performing	Rock and Roll	Gamelan	Composing from a stimulus
Year 6	Basic Notation	Singing / Performing	Pachelbel's Canon	Ukulele	Samba
Year 7	The Blues		Hip Hop (Music Tech)	Riffs (Guitar)	Stand By Me

				(Ensemble Performances)
Year 8	Guitar Chords	Minimalism (Music Tech)	Song Writing	Recording Project

Specific Needs

We recognise that in all classes, pupils have a wide range of musical experiences and abilities. We seek to provide appropriate learning opportunities for all pupils by matching the challenge of the task to the ability and particular needs of our pupils.

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.

Music Tuition:

In addition to the weekly whole class music lessons, there are optional instrumental lessons in piano, drum kit, violin, cello, trumpet, bass guitar and electric/acoustic guitar. These lessons are offered on a one-to-one, paired or small group basis. Our tutors are currently provided by NEMCO and MPN. Parents and carers pay for these lessons.

We do have a small cohort of pupil premium students for which GJHA provides part or full payment for their lessons. This is decided at a senior leadership level.

Instruments are loaned to the school from NEMCO and MPN and loaned directly to the parents.

All lessons are available as 20- or 30-minute lessons and are available as group lessons also. Current music fees are available [here](#).

Extra-Curricular Opportunities:

Students are encouraged to take part in one of our many extra-curricular clubs that happen throughout the week and year including:

String/Ceilidh Band

Drama Club

Ukulele Club

Rock School

KS2 Singing Group

KS2 Christmas Performance Rehearsals

All Extra-curricular clubs are free of charge for all students.

As well as weekly clubs, various performance opportunities are offered across the year. KS2 students stage an annual Christmas Musical/Pantomime including whole year group vocal, dancing and acting. Our whole school Drama Club works towards pour final summer music production in the July of each year.

Other opportunities, in partnership with our partner middle schools and Gosforth Academy in the Year 8 Gifted and Talented performance workshop, Pyramid Ceilidh Band, Pyramid Concert, Gosforth band and Gosforth Intermediate Voices – there are many performance opportunities for our musicians to be involved with.

Our Music Department has 2 dedicated practice rooms as well as a music technology suite of laptops, a large, dedicated teaching classroom, access to the main school hall and a small but very capable suite of recording equipment and software.

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.

As well as weekly clubs, various performance opportunities are offered across the year.

KS2 students stage an annual Christmas Musical/Pantomime including whole year group vocal, dancing and acting.

Our whole school Drama Club works towards pour final summer music production in the July of each year.

Our KS2 singing group visits local Elderly Care Homes and performs festive songs.

Other opportunities, in partnership with our partner middle schools and Gosforth Academy in the Year 8 Gifted and Talented performance workshop, Pyramid Ceilidh Band, Pyramid Concert, Gosforth band and Gosforth Intermediate Voices – there are many performance opportunities for our musicians to be involved with.

In the future

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

The plan for the future is to:

- Reintroduce regular music performance assemblies
- Organise an annual talent competition
- Introduce a Battle of the Bands type evening performance for our Rock School club to feed into
- Forge further relationships with Gosforth Academy to allow for 6th form students to come and perform in our assemblies - providing further opportunities for our students to hear more live performances
- Explore the option of inviting parents into assemblies to perform – providing further opportunities for our students to hear more live performances