

Music Development Plan

The Adeyfield Academy



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	04/08/2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	04/06/2025
Name of the school music lead	Mrs M Forni
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Miss I Walbank
Name of local music hub	Hertfordshire Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Totally RAD Music (peripatetic lessons) Hertfordshire Music Service

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

DATA (2024-25) - Music								
Curriculum hrs/cycle					Cohort Sizes			
Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10/11	Y12/13	Y10	Y11	Y12	Y13
2	2	2	5	0	20	18	0	0

The Music curriculum at Adeyfield Academy is designed to promote the enjoyment and knowledge of music through the strands of Listening and appraising, singing, performing and composing. The skills and knowledge developed in KS3 and further within KS4 are informed by the model Music curriculum, and allow all students to access and experience a range of different styles, periods and play a variety of different instruments to secure understanding.

We aim to develop students who can communicate musically with fluency, accuracy and control of the musical resources used. They will develop knowledge of a variety of instruments, including whole class keyboards, guitar, drum kit, ukulele, djembes, samba instruments. As well as performing and composing with these instruments individually as well as in an ensemble setting, they will also develop their theoretical understanding, putting their musical knowledge into social, cultural and historical contexts as well as being effective and independent learners with enquiring minds.

They are required to develop knowledge of music technologies and their use in the creation and presentation of music. They are to learn to recognise contrasting genres, styles and traditions of music and to appreciate and respect the diverse cultures of music, and develop some awareness of musical chronology.

Students will have the experience of being creative learners, and encouraged to broaden their musical experience and interests, developing imagination and fostering creativity through compositional tasks, forming their own opinions through self-expression and discussion, but also by showing compassion; listening and considering the thoughts and feelings of others. They will develop a knowledge of an appropriate musical language to reflect upon and evaluate musical performances.

No matter the experience, all students will be able to access the curriculum, whether it is using more visual support such as a keyboard help sheet, the use of images, whiteboards or 1-1 teacher support within the classroom. Practice rooms are used not only to academically push students to work independently and for instrumental lessons, but to also allow those who may find the subject overwhelming at times space to focus and minimise distractions to support their learning. As a result of the support given from the start of their experience in secondary school, 37% of the KS4 cohort have a special educational need. Students who struggle with performing in front of others, are also given the opportunity to perform assessments in practice rooms to the teacher first, with the intention of then building up audience numbers to eventually achieve a performance within the main classroom.

Units of work include: popular music through the ages, rhythms of the world, film and gaming music, classical music, song writing, music sequencing, musical elements and superheroes and tonality. To see the full scheme of learning, please click on the link [here](#).

GCSE Music

Exam Board: Eduqas

Qualification code: C660QS

Entrance Criteria

Students wishing to study GCSE Music must either be currently taking lessons on an instrument of their choice, willing to start learning an instrument, be a keen and enthusiastic singer, or have knowledge and love of music technology. They must also have a keen interest in listening to music, performing music, and exploring music through composition in a wide variety of classical and popular styles.

Course Content

The GCSE Music course builds on skills learnt in Years 7, 8 and 9 concentrating on the practical skills of performing, composing and listening. Students will study, perform and compose a wide range of music from the following 4 areas of study. They will need to complete two performances and two compositions.

Areas of Study

- Area of study 1: Musical Forms and Devices (Western Classical Music)
- Area of study 2: Music for Ensemble (Chamber music, Jazz and Blues, Musical Theatre etc)
- Area of study 3: Film Music
- Area of Study 4: Popular Music

Mode of Assessment

GCSE Music is a combination of 2 non-examined assessments (60%) and 1 written exam (40%).

- Component 1 Performing 30% NEA - Perform as a soloist and as a member of an ensemble
- Component 2 Composing 30% NEA 2 - Create two compositions to set brief
- Component 3 Appraising 40% - 1 hour 15 minute listening and appraising exam based on the 4 Areas of Study. This will include questions on two set works given by the exam board.

The GCSE Music course is extremely practical and creative and would suit any student who has an interest or flair for creating and performing music. Students will learn to perform, compose and appreciate different types of music, developing critical and creative thinking, cultural, aesthetic and emotional awareness, and the ability to make music individually and as part of a group. The department hopes to expand the offering of KS5 Music courses for the 25-26 academic year.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Music is a subject that can be developed and enjoyed outside the classroom at the Adeyfield Academy. There is an offering of instrumental and vocal lessons which take place during the day. Students can opt to have both group and individual lessons on a variety of instruments such as the guitar, piano, drums, vocals and these are offered through [Hertfordshire Music service](#) and [Totally RAD Music](#). The professional musicians come into the school and use the music practice rooms to complete the lessons, which are either in small groups or individually. Prices are available via the organisations website, including instrument hire information. Students who take GCSE Music who are eligible for pupil premium funding are able to have one group instrumental lesson a week subsidised by the school.

There are also lots of opportunities for students to develop their musical experience within school through the extra-curricular programme offered. The school currently runs a number of clubs that are either run at lunch times or after school. These help develop important life skills such as team work, resilience, courage, dedication as well as developing musical practical skills. It can also help and support college and university applications, showing the student to be a well rounded individual. The clubs below are the currently taking place.

- KS3 instrumental group
- Polyphonics Vocal Group
- Karaoke Club
- GCSE Music and Music Scholars session

Students also have the opportunity to book practice rooms during lunch times to allow them to develop their own skills individually/ in small groups. The Music department also teams up with the other members of the faculty to produce a school production every year. In previous years, this has included High School Musical, Matilda and Legally Blonde.

There are a number of opportunities for students to develop their skills outside of Adeyfield within the local area. These include:

- Dacorum Music <https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/music-centres-in-hertfordshire/dacorum-music-school-hemel-hempstead.aspx>
- Jigsaw Performing Arts School (lessons held at Adeyfield on a Saturday) <https://www.jigsaw-arts.co.uk/performing-arts-school/hemel/>
- Smash Arts Theatre Company <https://smashartstheatrecompany.co.uk/>
- Stagecoach <https://www.stagecoach.co.uk/berkhamstedhemel>

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.

Students have a number of opportunities to perform in front of each other to develop their resilience and confidence. This also helps to develop their listening and appraising skills. Students are encouraged to share their work informally within whole class lessons to allow for critical feedback to support improvement. Throughout various units completed in KS3, there are also summative more formal performances within lessons where students perform the piece they are working on, whether it be a composition or a piece they have learnt, to the whole class.

Students also have an opportunity to perform at whole school events. This year, performing opportunities include:

- The school open evening (select students only)
- KS4 exhibition evening (KS4 Students),
- Adeyfield's Got Talent (all can audition. Top 10 acts go through. Not just music performances)
- Christmas in the community - performing within the local area (open to all)
- Primary school performances
- School production (open to all). (small ticket charge to watch)
- Adeyfest, our end of year school festival (mainly KS4)

Students are also able to perform in certain assemblies which promote the school values or themes, such as the year 11 leavers assembly.

There are also opportunities for students to experience professional musical performances. This includes:

- Y7 and y8 Pantomime trip
- West End theatre trip (open to all)
- KS4 trip to Handel and Hendrix musician (inclusion of a Baroque workshop)
- Musical Theatre Company Workshop (free/ pupil premium funded)
- Professional musicians performance addressing mental health assemblies.

In the past, students have also taken part in virtual and inhouse music workshops including a professional drummer who set up his own music business, discussing how to get into the industry, and a vocal workshop from a professional vocal coach in America, both of which were free.

In the future

The Adeyfield Academy was privileged enough to receive the Silver Arts Mark Award in May 2024; the only award for arts and culture provision in England accredited by Arts Council England. This is something that the Performing Arts Faculty would like to build on and would like to apply for the gold award in the coming years.

We are also hoping to build up the music technology offering at Adeyfield to replicate the way the industry incorporates this within all aspects of the subject. We are looking at funding opportunities to build up the resources with the long term aim of offering a Music technology course at KS4.

The number of students having instrumental lessons is something that the department is also wanting to develop as this will then feed into an increase of uptake at KS4 and KS5 as well as raising the profile of the department around the school.

Further information (optional)

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Please see the link to [Hertfordshire Music Hub](#)

Important publications

- [National Plan for Music Education, DfE \(2022\)](#)
- [Model Music Curriculum, DfE \(2021\)](#)
- [KS2 to 3 transition in music.pdf \(ism.org\)](#)
- [The National Curriculum for Music - Secondary Overview.pdf \(ism.org\)](#)
- [Striking the right note: the music subject report - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) (2023)
- [Ofsted Music Research Review \(2021\)](#)
- [The power of music to change lives: resources - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- [Professional and amateur musicians](#)
- [School, teachers and music hubs](#)