

Music development plan summary: Idsall School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/26
Date this summary was published	Sept 25
Date this summary will be reviewed	Spring 26
Name of the school music lead	Mr A Austin
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Shropshire Music Service

This School Music Development Plan sets out our vision for music within the school and the strategic actions we will take to ensure all pupils have access to a rich, inclusive, and progressive musical experience. It outlines how curriculum music, instrumental and vocal learning, ensembles, performances, and enrichment opportunities will be strengthened and connected, ensuring that every child—regardless of background, prior experience, or ability—can participate, progress, and achieve.

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.

Students at Idsall School have the opportunity to study a wide range of musical instruments and styles across KS3 providing the groundwork for success at GCSE level in KS4. Our aim is to develop a sustainable music provision that is ambitious, accessible, and reflective of our school community. Through high-quality teaching, strong partnerships, and meaningful performance opportunities, we seek to nurture a lifelong engagement with music, while identifying and supporting pupils with particular interest or talent.

Students receive 1 lesson of music a fortnight, developing a working practical knowledge of the three golden strands of Performance, Composition and Appraisal. The Curriculum is designed to sequence topics and styles to allow maximum progression of these core skills across all Year groups. Topics cover all genres of music including “Pop” and “World Music”, clearly linking to the Areas of Study required for OCR GCSE Music. All lessons include a range of activities including keyboard,

instrumental and music technology skills depending on individual needs and abilities. These are supported by various peripatetic instrumental lessons provided by ourselves and Shropshire Music Service. Pupils are encouraged to take part in public examinations such as “Rock School” and ABRSM gradings. The Focus on Sound Learning Platform is used extensively at KS4 and for identified KS3 students to further develop skills, knowledge and musical understanding.

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 Idsall School have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument through our strong network of professional tutors. Lessons on the core instruments of Piano, Keyboard, Guitar, Bass Guitar and Drum kit are delivered by our specialist team, with other orchestral instruments being offered by Shropshire Music School. Lessons are delivered in 20 minute 5 week blocks, and start from as little as £15 for group lessons and £50 for individual per block of 5. Subsidies may be available to students that have pupil premium eligibility with instruments being free to use within the school.

Students are encouraged to join a wide variety of music clubs and ensembles that are free to attend at either lunchtime or Session 6. These include a choir, Drum Club, Musical Theatre productions, Guitar Club and Kaleidoscope Band.

Music passes are available upon request which allow students to access the music department at break and lunchtimes to practice and rehearse.

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 the opportunity to perform at a range of events throughout the year, including assemblies, open evenings other events such as a Remembrance Service. A Musical Theatre Production takes place every Summer in the school hall to which performances are given to students, parents and local primary schools. Students from all Key Stages (3,4 and 4) are involved in planning and delivering workshops with primary school children which are then performed to parents. An annual Christmas Concert is given at the local St Andrews Church, along with invitations to perform at external events such as “Shifnal Sings” and at the Redhouse Albrighton. Trips have

included concerts and subsidised tickets to the national tour of Mary Poppins. We also attended an Open Day at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire of Music.

Select students also took part in the inaugural Trust Orchestra day held at Shrewsbury School.

In the future

It is hoped that the music department continues to grow over the subsequent years, with increased provision and access not only to practical instruments but sequencing and music technology.

A residential course is being drafted and planned that would be open to all interested students with the objective being to raise the profile and uptake of extra - curricular lessons and ensembles.

Increased links with local primary schools will allow more early years students open access to performances and workshops, providing a deeper understanding of both curricular knowledge and practical performance skills.