

## Music development plan summary: St Michael's Catholic College

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2025-26.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Dear reader

The document below outlines the Music development plan for St Michael's Catholic College for the academic year 2025-2026. This is a summary of how our college delivers music education to all our pupils across curricular and extra-curricular music. This information is to help students and parents and carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our student's music education. I hope you enjoy reading this music development plan, and should you have any further questions, please feel free to email me at [d.laurence@stmichaelscollege.org.uk](mailto:d.laurence@stmichaelscollege.org.uk) I am proud to work at St Michael's Catholic College, and with our music team and all our students to aid them through school music to build a life-long-love of music, whatever that might look like in the future. Yours Musically, Mr Laurence Head of Music

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	30.6.25
Name of the school music lead	Dave Laurence
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	tbc
Name of local music hub	Southwark Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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.

This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that students can achieve. As a school we deliver high-quality provision in curricular music across KS3 and KS4. Our KS3 curriculum has been revised to ensure to include the key features of the National Plan for Music Education. Our school music curriculum is also informed by the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021), which is a piece of non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 3. As a college we are proud that our college timetable curriculum includes 1 hour of KS3 music per week on our timetable. This allows for the Music Department to plan 6,7 or 8 week Schemes of Work (SOWs), depending on the half term. During lessons we give access to group music making experiences across a range of instruments, and voices. This includes whole class keyboard, ukulele, African Drumming and Samba drumming embedded into appropriate schemes of work at appropriate stages of KS3.

Year 7:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1URhR6lykJUjr8L5tm-dDMBw6a9EcR4iiMbHENH3jByE/edit?usp=sharing>

Year 8:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/187BCUxpvp6gydKWPC4ax2WcHz5suJ0Zln7mC9TJkatQ/edit?usp=sharing>

Year 9:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TpmoWTxE96lyJPOhvxy-loc8OcoEwaH-zKF22dOSO7Lw/edit?usp=sharing>

The KS3 curriculum is scaffolded so that prior learning is built not only upon lesson by lesson but also topic by topic, so students not only broaden their skill sets by trying new instruments, but also deepen their musical learning and abilities by developing specific skills. Specific topics have been included at KS3 that are built upon at KS4 level, for example: Film Music and African Music are both studied at KS4 level, which is introduced at KS3. The Y9 Band links to ensemble performance which links heavily to GCSE Music. KS3 Homework is set weekly with an extended piece of writing marked half termly. KS4 curriculum is set to the OCR GCSE Music syllabus (which is graded 1 to 9) <https://ocr.org.uk/Images/219378-specification-accredited-gcse-music-j536.pdf> Our college timetable curriculum includes 3 hours of KS4 music over a weekly timetable and an extra hour at the end of the college day once per week.

At KS4, students engage with performance, composition and listening skills and are able to 'specialise' within the realms of the course on a specific instrument, voice or via performance or production outlets.

The curriculum is developed in-line with course requirements, but also so that prior learning is built upon. Planning is adapted on a lesson by lesson basis to suit the needs of the learners and this planning is judged and assessed by the classroom teachers based on learning outcomes. This is discussed with students in lessons. Homework is set weekly, using Google Classroom.

In classroom music, pupils are given the opportunity, through each topic, to sing as a class/use piano keyboards- provision is made for this through keyboards placed around the classroom-/Digital Audio Workstations through online app Soundtrap, allowing opportunities to perform and sing using technology for class projects and homework. Whole classes work in small group ensembles. This includes using African Djembe Drums/Samba Drums/Glockenspiels and a range of assorted percussion instruments. Pupils also join in classroom projects using their woodwind/strings/brass and guitar instruments, learnt with the support of the peripatetic visiting music staff.

## **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.

This section is about opportunities for our students to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including extra tuition available, and our school choirs, ensembles and bands, and how students can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

The standard of our teachers is of the highest quality; they are vetted through rigorous application. This is evident in how much our students enjoy their instrumental lessons, which over time has been displayed through recorded concerts, solo performances and the excellent data obtained in our KS4 results.

As a school we are proud that we give access to peripatetic lessons across a range of instruments and for voice. We currently have a full-time coordinator that also teaches woodwind and piano and we also offer lessons in voice, drum kit, woodwind (saxophone, clarinet and flute), brass (trumpet, trombone, French horn, tenor horn, euphonium and tuba) and strings (violin and cello). Students are able to play for fun or with more academic rigour. Some students learn aurally, using YouTube tutorials as guidance, others learn by ear or with music notation. When appropriate, students are entered for Graded Music Exams via the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM), Trinity or Rock School London (RSL). Students are able to have one-to-one lessons, or opt for small or larger group tuition, depending on individual student need and preference. The fees vary depending on how many students are in a lesson. Where possible, students can loan an instrument from the College at a heavily subsidised rate.

Students who have Pupil Premium status are entitled to subsidised music tuition. This includes students who receive Free School Meals, have a parent who is in receipt of disability allowance. The College happily assists any parent or carer who has a child with pupil premium status to sign up for lessons where help is needed.

Our Music Clubs run every day during both KS3 and KS4 lunch times and have always been excellently attended by different students across the College, where students participate enthusiastically and with excellent developing musicianship.

All of our College clubs are free of charge. Our college ensembles include:

1. Y7 Choir
2. Y8-13 Choir
3. Y10&11 Choir
4. Guitar ensemble
5. String ensemble
6. Junior Wind Band (Year 7-9)
7. Senior Wind Band (Year 10-13)
8. Samba Band (Year 7-9)
9. Keyboard club (Year 7)
10. Brass ensemble

We open practice spaces regularly for students to further improve their practical work for further improvement. This regular availability supports individual and small group rehearsal on any instrument and for voice. The practice spaces also allow for the nurture of independently formed groups. These groups then go on to perform in front of their peers, in assembly.

We actively encourage students to join musical activities organised outside the College through Southwark Music Hub and the Centre For Young Musicians at Morley College.

**Alternative titles** for Part B could be 'Extra-curricular music' or 'Music tuition, choirs and ensembles'.

## 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.

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as performing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts. We have links with Sands Films which allows the Music Department to perform in their professional space using their film and audio equipment for workshop projects and Dulwich College who have been supporting the development of brass playing through exchange performance visits.

The work of visiting workshop leaders is in line with our own mission- to provide aspirational and innovative opportunities for children and young people in Southwark to enjoy a diverse and inclusive music education. At KS3 level this includes working with Crofton Brass ensemble, jazz workshops with Julian Nicholas and Senegalese djembe drumming workshops led by Mohamed Gueye and Aboubacar Konate to KS3 whole year groups during Arts Enrichment Week.

We regularly take pupils from across all year groups, to concerts and musicals in London throughout the academic year.

All students get the opportunity to perform, or listen to their peers performing live music at least once a year; this can include the Christmas Concert and Church Service at Dockhead Church at Christmas and Easter. The Christmas Concert and Summer Showcase in the College Hall allow parents the opportunity to hear their children perform. We also give students opportunities to perform solos during the open evenings and year group celebration afternoons and assemblies.

When a music event or trip is open to parents or carers to attend, an online information letter with attached one drive permission and insurance form is sent to parents via the email that has been given to the school. If parents are not able to access these forms a paper copy can be requested. The letter will detail whether an event or trip is ticketed, seated or just a 'turn up' occasion. It will also explain if an event or a trip is free of charge or includes a fee and how to pay (usually via parent pay). Students with Pupil Premium status receive discounts or fully funded places on trips, and their lunch is provided on the day if they are out of school for an event or trip.

## In the future

This is about what St Michael's Catholic College is planning for in future years.

We continually build on and develop our music plan each academic year. We will continue to maintain our high-quality music provision, for example maintaining the amount of time students are able to access timetabled music lessons. We will continue with our termly and frequent performances. In subsequent years there will be further performance opportunities as we will continue to work with outside organisations as well as reaping benefits from workshops and events they provide. The curriculum is tweaked as necessary, to ensure teaching practice and materials are as up to date as possible. Extra-curricular experiences will continue to include annual concerts and productions with the Drama department, and the College will continue to host talent competitions. We also hope to re-establish the annual carol singing fundraising events in the Southwark area at Christmas and having Southwark Music Hub delivering "Musical Futures" Workshops and entering Music for Youth competitions.

