

Music development plan summary: Denton Community College

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	June 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2025
Name of the school music lead	Miss E Watson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Miss J Worrall
Name of local music hub	Tameside Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	NA

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.

What we teach

Every child deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential through a culturally relevant, aspirational and knowledge rich curriculum. We inspire and develop an appreciation and understanding from across the canon; including different genres, time periods and cultures. Students will sing, perform, compose and appraise music developing secure knowledge through active music making. By extending and experiencing music making beyond the classroom and into real world environments we hope to inspire students to become respectful, aspiration and proud learners.

By the close of this academic year the KS3 curriculum, year 7 and 8 will have completed 3 different topics across three half terms before a rotation within Performing Arts.

In year 7 as soon as students arrive at DCC they start with an in-depth exploration of the elements of music, using practical skills and different pieces as a vehicle for learning. This then lends nicely to Music for Cultures where students will further these skills and learn about the world of Samba, focusing on culture, context, writing and performing

appropriately for the instruments and furthering their basic theory skills such as composing, reading and writing notation. The pupils then take these developed skills into their final half term of music where they study Great Composers. In this scheme, they use their theory skills to appraise different key works within the genre and explore how this evolves throughout the classical era into the romantic period.

In year 8, the journey continues to develop the skills and knowledge they have gained in year 7. Students start by studying Blues Music where pupils study the structure of the 12-bar blues and the art of improvisation. They move onto a 4 Chord Song scheme, building on their previous learning, in which they learn extended theory for chords and they then explore how this theory is then applied to multiple instruments around a band. We use the instruments again as a vehicle for learning and the practicality helps the teaching and learning the students need to cater for all learning styles. They move onto the next unit of 'Music and Music Technology' where they explore EDM and using DAW's in different ways eg. Loops, drum machines, recording and editing.

It is then in year 9 that they start to prepare for the BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice. They spend the year exploring different styles from the exam specification and expand their skills appraising, performing and composing in the styles explored.

Opportunities to Sing/Play instrument in lesson – whole class ensemble/solos (Y7/8), Y10 & 11 band work

Year 7, 8 and 9 contains whole class ensemble playing, solo practice and performance and opportunities for music composition.

As performance is embedded into our schemes of work in some way, pupils have the opportunity to play and perform in the vast variety of styles they will explore over KS3. This includes classical music, samba, body percussion/group work, blues, pop and more.

Specifically during the 4 chord song unit, the pupils are given the opportunity to explore and learn basic parts on all instruments. This introduction to instruments has led a number of pupils to take up the opportunities we offer for instrumental lessons, developing their knowledge and skills further alongside the curriculum.

Lesson time

KS3: 1 hour per week for half a year (rotate within Performing Arts,)

Year 10 and 11 BTEC Music cohort have 3 hours per week and additional peripatetic lessons (fully funded by Universal).

Qualifications/Awards – By the end of the 5-years at the school, students in Music will be experienced on their chosen instrument and will attain a BTEC Level 2 in Music Practice (should they choose it). We study BTEC Music Tech Award in Music Practice.

Music option students have access to peripatetic lessons funded by Universal Music Foundation and KS3 have the option to be put on a waiting list or to purchase these lessons through Tameside Music Service. Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 students have access to the extra-curricular timetable. These are used as interventions and opportunities to excel. Students who excel in these opportunities and dedicate themselves to practice in school and at home, work towards graded exams.

Information on Partnerships to support curriculum music

Tameside Music Service

The peripatetic team comes to the academy from the local music hub, Tameside Music Service. From the music service we have Guitar, Piano, Woodwind, Brass, Drums and Vocal tutors. All tutors offer exceptional support to our students undertaking their tuition and excel in a safe supportive environment..

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.

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Summer Showcase – DCC put on their annual showcase at the end of the year to celebrate the hard work of the performing arts department over the academic year.

Leavers Assembly – Year 11 often relish the opportunity for one last performance and often do a song in front of an appreciative staff and student body in their leavers assembly.

Christmas Carols – On the last day of Term 1, the brass band students/instrumentalists tour around the school, entertaining the classes with Christmas carols during the last lesson of the day before the end of the term.

Extra-curricular – various clubs have been set up throughout the year to act as an extension of the learning the classroom and to give pupils an opportunity to further their skills to aid their learning in class. This also gives pupils without any instruments at home the opportunity to learn/practice an instrument in their own time.

Instruments that the school owns are available to loan free of charge.

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.

Opportunities to perform - The school hold yearly showcase to invite in parents, friends, carers and other staff associated with the academies to show off the hard work of the students in the performing arts department throughout the year and to celebrate what they have achieved. The school also bi-annually works towards a musical production with the last one being Matilda The Musical.

In the future

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

Our future plans include:

- EBACC enrichment opportunities to expose our pupils to music eg. Trips/workshops. **EBACC enrichment is provided to the whole year group free of charge**
- Increase participation in extra-curricular music provision ensuring equity across year groups
- Increase participation in peripatetic music lessons
- Provide opportunities for pupils to engage in a wider variety of music.
- To raise the profile of the standard of talent in the school and wider community