

# Music Development Plan Summary: St Edmund's Catholic Academy

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	20th September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	20th September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mr A Hughes
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs P Gill
Name of local music hub	Wolverhampton Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-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 curriculum for KS3, KS4 and KS5 can be found on our website [here](#). In summary, all students study Music throughout KS3, receiving one, 1.25hr lesson every two weeks. Students opting to study Music in KS4 receive two 1.25hr lessons every week, and students opting to study Music Technology in KS5 receive four 1.25hr lessons every week.

Our KS3 curriculum broadly follows the Model Music Curriculum, including a variety of eras from the Western Classical tradition, through to modern music such as Rock/Pop and Hip-Hop. Thanks to our state-of-the-art Mac suite, music technology is embedded into the curriculum, alongside the opportunity to sing and play a variety of instruments. Our KS3 Curriculum is regularly monitored and reviewed to ensure it best meets the needs of our students and it aligns with the Model Music Curriculum. Under development

this year is a KS3 Music Website for learners to access during lesson and at home, which will contain things such as tutorial videos, listening activities and tier 3 vocabulary.

In KS4, pupils have the opportunity to study towards the Pearson BTEC Level 1 / Level 2 Tech Award in Music Practice. In KS5 pupils have the opportunity to study towards the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance. As noted in the 'In the future' section, the KS5 course is a new introduction this year, and in KS4 the OCR GCSE in Music will be introduced. Again, further details can be found on the link above.

We strive to make our music both accessible and challenging to all learners, and further information on the academy's SEND provision can be found [here](#), and our Loyola programme for upper ability learners [here](#).

## **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.

For many years, St Edmunds Catholic Academy has worked in partnership with Wolverhampton Music Service, who provide one-to-one instrumental tuition on a variety of instruments, listed below. This is at a cost of £95 per term, with a 50% bursary available to Pupil Premium students. More information about these instrumental lessons can be found in this [letter to families](#). Tuition is available on the following instruments:

- Strings
- Woodwind
- Brass
- Keyboard
- Drumkit
- Vocals

We offer a range of clubs for students of all ages to attend, listed below and on our website [here](#):

- Academy Choir
- Music Club (individual practice and group rehearsal, plus coursework workshops for older students)
- Academy Musical

Our partnership with Wolverhampton Music Service also provides our students with access to a variety of city-wide ensembles, such as:

- Woodwind and Brass Groups

- String Groups
- Guitar Groups
- Dhol Groups
- Vocal Groups

## 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 a Catholic Academy, music, especially communal singing, plays a key role in our liturgical life, most notably in Mass, which happens roughly every term. All students are encouraged to sing, and opportunities to learn the hymns are included in our KS3 curriculum.

Every Easter we stage an 'Easter Concert', featuring solo and ensemble performances from across the age range, and in collaboration with our Drama department. Our annual Musical Theatre production gives our students the opportunity to perform in well-known musical theatre shows, or help out in backstage or technical roles.

As well as opportunities for students to perform, we provide opportunities for students to see live performances as spectators, for example theatre trips and in-academy performances from Wolverhampton Music Service staff.

## In the future

For 2025-26, the Music department has identified the following priorities:

- Develop a KS3 Music Website, which will be the go-to place for students to access learning resources (such as tutorial videos, listening activities and tier 3 vocabulary) both during lesson and at home, to encourage learner independence and engagement.
- Introduce new courses at KS4 (OCR GCSE Drama) and KS5 (BTEC Level 3 in Music Performance) to better serve the needs and interests of our learners.
- Draw upon industry contacts to provide masterclass workshops for our students to heighten aspirations in the world of Music.
- Commence the planning for a Choir Tour to France, to take place in summer of 2027, to encourage participation and engagement in our Academy Choir.

## Further information

- [St Gabriel the Archangel Catholic Multi-Academy Trust](#)
- [Wolverhampton Music Service](#)