

Music development plan summary: King’s School, Hove

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Jo Brennan
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Helena Staples
Name of local music hub	Create Music
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.

Here at King’s School we aim to provide interesting, practical, and engaging music lessons. We teach lessons that encourage and nurture students’ love of music and help them develop all the skills needed to become confident musicians.

In lessons we equip students with practical skills in music making, performance, composition, and theory. Students sing and perform as much as possible but are also given focused listening lessons where they develop their aural skills.

Students have access to a range of classroom and popular instruments and are given practice spaces in which to work. Students are also given regular access to our Apple Mac suite where composition and listening work can take place.

We have also created a DJ/Sound Production studio which will be opening this term so that students will benefit from this from January 2025.

All Year 7 students receive two 50-minute lessons per week, one of which is practical and one of which develops students’ music tech and compositional skills.

All Year 8-9 students receive one 50-minute lesson per week and this is carefully divided between practical work, listening and appraisal, and music technology work.

The curriculum is carefully structured and designed to ensure students have the opportunity to enjoy and thrive at music and develop their own skills at their own pace. In **Year 7** students begin with the “Elements of Music” where they learn the very important ingredients of what makes music. They compose creatively, exploring programmatic music, beginning to hone the skills needed to work effectively together. As the year progresses, they explore the orchestra, form and structure in music and music from across the world. This happens through performance, composition and listening. Singing is incorporated in many of these topics and students are encouraged to join at least one of the many Choirs that we have here at King’s.

As students progress through **Year 8 and Year 9** they explore historical musical topics such The Blues and Western classical traditions within the Baroque, Classical and Romantic era. Students sing their way through musicals and a variety of songs from genres such as Rock N’ Roll, Reggae, Motown, Soul and Pop.

All students are given the chance to play in whole class and smaller ensembles and are taught keyboard, guitar, ukulele, bass guitar and drum kit.

Here is a link to the Music Curriculum at King's: , <https://kingsschoolhove.org.uk/curriculum>

Music Qualifications at King's:

We teach Music GCSE at King's and are proud to boast an impressive take up each year with strong, competitive results. We follow the Eduqas syllabus, which enables students to become well-rounded musicians with developed listening, appraising, performing and compositional skills.

We also teach A 'Level Music, again following the Eduqas syllabus. This is a very exciting syllabus that introduces students to new genres of music, but also grounds their fundamental understanding of traditional, western teachings. It gives students the opportunity to perform, compose, listen, and appraise. Much of the final grade is, like GCSE, based on the outcomes of the NEA work (60%) with an exam taking the final 40%.

Create Music:

Here at King's we are extremely fortunate to work with our fantastic Brighton based music hub – Create Music. Through Create Music we are provided with a team of expert peripatetic music teachers who offer a full range of instrumental and vocal lessons (the offer from Create Music can be found on their website here: [Find an Instrument to learn | Create Music](#)). Many of these teachers also teach at our feeder primary schools, which helps create a smooth (and musical!) transition from one school to another.

Our peripatetic staff provide solo, or group lessons in the following instruments:

Students can also choose from a range of exam boards if they wish to pursue musical grades. Many of the teachers also direct local ensembles outside of school and will encourage King's students to participate, giving them a fully rounded musical experience.

Part B: Extra-curricular music

Here at King's we offer an exciting range of musical opportunities for students and every day is busy!

Here is a list of our extra-curricular music groups at King's:

Year 7 Choir

KS4-5 Choir

Chamber Choir

Community Choir

Orchestra

Stage Band

Music Technology and Sound Production

Worship Band

All students are welcome in extra-curricular groups and no audition is necessary. However, Orchestra and Stage Band do require a minimum standard of Grade 2.

The groups are flexible, and Stage Band becomes the accompanying group for our larger whole school musical every two years. When not rehearsing for a show Stage Band works on other musical repertoire often accompanying the Chamber Choir and other vocal groups.

Part C: Musical performances and events

We have a very busy performance schedule at King's, and it has grown over the years as the department and school have grown. Students have performed in our school hall on numerous occasions but also in local festivals, within our church community and care homes and even on the beach front at Christmas! We encourage musicians and performers of all genres and styles and aim to create space for everyone to shine and be heard.

The King's Showcase – this is a variety concert where we like to encourage all styles of music to be performed from Rap to Musicals, Baroque to Jazz, Folk to Samba – all genres are all welcome! Students from all year groups are included and it is a chance for the larger ensembles and GCSE groups to perform as well as soloists. Showcase concerts are held twice a year, one at Christmas and one in the summer.

Carol Concert – our annual Christmas celebration held in one of our community churches. The Chamber Choir, Orchestra and Year 7 Choir lead and support the singing for this special event.

King's Community Concert at Christmas – starting last year this is a fantastic event that invites staff, parents, and friends to join in a concert celebrating our community at Christmas.

KS3 Young Musician of the Year – held in March students are invited to perform a solo which they perform in front of an audience and panel of judges. Certificates are awarded and a much sought-after cup is given for first place!

Summer Worship – to celebrate King's Day, our Worship Band leads our school community within the service.

Whole School Production – a wonderful and exciting event in the King's calendar. A large team of over 70 students from all year groups, work hard together to perform the chosen show for 3 nights fantastic nights!

Music Tour – New to King's from 2024, this is a chance for students to perform at a variety of different and exciting venues within a chosen European country. This year our students and staff visited Belgium in July!

In the future

Lunchtime concerts – to enrich our lunch time and continue to spread the joy of music, we will be creating a small performance space in the lunch hall and students can step up and take the mic.

KS4 Young Musician of the Year – as our school grows so do our music competitions!

Music Technology – As we open our new DJ and sound production room, we aim to develop how we teach this and ensure that all students have access.