

Music development plan summary: Cranbourne

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	03/09/2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	04/09/2025
Name of the school music lead	Chip Philo
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Al Targett
Name of local music hub	Hampshire Music Service
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.

Music is offered to every single year group, whether that is on a regular basis for Year 7/8 students, on an in-depth level in Year 9, and as a KS4 option in Year 10/11.

The classroom time is as follows for each year group; each lesson is 50 minutes long and on a fortnightly basis:

Year 7 – 2 lessons

Year 8 – 2 lessons

Year 9 – 5 lessons

Year 10 – 7 lessons

Year 11 – 7 lessons

There is an overview of schemes of work on the school website for KS3 and KS4, as well as an in-depth look which includes key terms which are covered in each topic, the skills the students will be developing, as well as links to KS4.

The model music curriculum encouraged the development of our department's schemes of work heavily, particularly for KS3. Whilst planning, the department referred to the document to ensure the students were learning the right skills and were being challenged enough, as well as to inspire genre choices. This was to ensure each year was given a broad spectrum of styles to study. As well as the model music curriculum, our department uses a spiral curriculum, to ensure skill learning is revisited often and is built upon each time. This also helps our students to embed the skills.

In the classroom, KS3 students have the opportunity to sing, learn the keyboard and ukulele, and use music software (Garageband and Sibelius) to compose. Following the recommendation of the model music curriculum and using a spiral curriculum to hone their skills, students sing at least once a term, and have a balanced level of performing and composing, alternating between these two skills; in one term, they will spend half the term performing, whether on keyboard or ukulele, and the other half term composing. Students are encouraged to use their listening skills almost every lesson, listening to examples and having the opportunity to analyse songs to identify key terms associated with the genre of study.

To ensure the department is following its mantra of “Music for All”, we work closely with our SEND department. This includes always using headphones, to ensure the learning environment doesn't get too loud and overwhelming, having clear concise instructions when teaching, and offering appropriate resources for the student.

For year 9, students are given the opportunity to opt for Music, without the restriction of having it as a GCSE at this stage. This gives the students the time to have more regular music lessons on their timetable, to explore other instruments, and gain a more in-depth understanding of music theory. In terms of the topics they are learning, the schemes of work are as follows:

Autumn: Students learn about music theory overall, with a focus on note duration, clefs, chord development, texture, circle of 5ths, time signatures, tempo, instrumental playing techniques and melodic devices.

Spring: Students have a recap about each element of music (all of which were covered in KS3, but with additional key terms outlined in the model music curriculum), and then apply this knowledge to different genres. We start with genres from the classical period, and towards the end of the term, move into popular genres.

Summer: Students continue to look in-depth at genres, with a focus on world music and the modern classical genres.

Alongside the theory lessons, students complete a project, working on either performance or compositional skills. In the first term, they prepare for an ensemble performance, in which they can choose any instrument they wish, whether that is an instrument they have already been learning, or if they wish to learn a new instrument. This instrument of choice depends on the resources available in the department, and the ability of the class teacher. Currently, they can learn guitar, bass guitar, drums, ukulele or keyboard.

In terms of **KS4 qualifications**, the department is running two different ones. The current cohort in year 11 are completing the BTEC Tech award in Music Practice, and the year 10 cohort are about to start AQA's GCSE in Music. In the past, it seems that BTEC has been the qualification of choice, however due to teacher specialism and the cohort of students, the decision has been made to move to GCSE instead. This is judged on a year-by-year basis to ensure each student is always given the best qualification available to them. In the opinion of the department, the AQA GCSE gives more skill development opportunities, particularly in listening and appraising.

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.

The department works with Hampshire Music Service to offer music tuition. The instruments that are available include piano, guitar, drums, violin (and other string instruments), voice and woodwind (clarinet, flute, saxophone). The students are given 20-minute lessons in small groups, or sometimes one to one. Students are offered the opportunity to pursue music qualifications through these lessons (such as ABRSM or Rock school exams), however it is not a mandatory requirement. At the time of writing, students and parents all sign contracts which outline payment and expectations for this provision. However, in the next academic year, the department hope to encourage more pupil premium students to learn an instrument, which will be outlined in the "in the future" section.

There are various HMS ensembles that are available for students to join that take place afterschool and at the weekend, including a wind band, an orchestra and a rock choir. These are all advertised by the department, and to students in lesson by their HMS teacher.

All the extra-curricular opportunities at Cranbourne are available for all years to join and have no charge. This is the current offer of extra-curricular clubs offered by the department after school:

- **Vocal band**
- **Keyboard club**
- **Music Tech club**
- **Performing arts club**

Students are also given the opportunity to "book out" practise rooms for them to use after school. This gives students the opportunity to play all instruments within the department, without teaching. However, they can access their phones to find tuition online. The main aim of this provision is for students to have access to the instruments that they may not have access to at home.

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.

Set out what musical experiences are planned for the academic year, including regular events musical performances, concerts and shows at the school, and trips to concerts outside of the school.

There is a variety of performance opportunities available to students. For vocal band, they are asked to perform in every whole school assembly and awards

evening; there is one of each per term. The department, in collaboration with the performing arts department, puts on a show once a year, which all students are given the opportunity to be a part of. We run auditions in Summer 2 but allow anyone that wants to join to come along throughout Autumn 1, without an audition. This is performed in December, at the end of Autumn 2.

In terms of trips, there is an opportunity to go watch a west end musical in September, as well as going to see a tour performance at the Mayflower in Southampton later in the year, depending on the show. Prices to these trips are as reduced as they can be, to cover the cost of travel and ticket prices. They are usually cheaper than if they tried to pay to go watch the show outside of school.

We also work closely with the Anvil to invite teachers into school to give specialist workshops, as well as career talks. The latter includes the opportunity for students to talk to people working in the music industry.

In terms of concerts/ performance opportunities, the department currently offers a opportunity in Autumn called "Cranbourne has Talent". This can be auditioned for by either individual performers, or as part of a group. There is also two concerts, one in the Spring term and then, in the summer term we have "Arts Week", which is a variety of performances from both the music department and the performing arts department, which includes a summer concert.

In the future

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

The department has two areas they wish to improve on, career opportunities and increasing the number of musical experiences.

Currently, the department offers a career fair "carousel" to its year 10 GCSE students, alongside the KS4 students taking part in performing arts, where professionals from music/ performing arts careers come to the school to talk to the students and they can ask questions. In the future, the department would like to offer career opportunity for students in KS3 as well.

Secondly, the department is hoping to increase the number of trips available for students. The current provision is brilliant for students interested in both music and performing arts, but we wish to offer music specific trips, to local concerts. There is lots of concerts performed at the Anvil, and the Head of Department intends to utilise this provision more over the next year.

Finally, the department would like to increase the number of performance opportunities for students to include a Winter concert, on top of the current offer of a Spring and Summer concert.