











# Music development plan summary: Alt Bridge Secondary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	September 2024- August 2025
Date this summary was published	10/5/2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	10/1/2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs J Davies
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs L Beddows
Name of local music hub	
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	<div>   </div> <div>  </div> <div>  </div> <div>   </div> <div>   </div> <div>  </div>

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.

Our Music curriculum enables pupils to listen, appraise, perform, and compose music from a wide range of styles and genres, while developing a strong understanding of the key elements that make up music. It introduces pupils to a broad repertoire, including popular music and music from different cultures around the world.

We follow the Charanga music education schemes, which offer an engaging, holistic, and differentiated spiral approach to teaching and learning. At the heart of each lesson are songs that draw out every element of musical learning, from listening and appraising to creating, exploring, and performing. This practical, integrated, and child-led approach ensures pupils build their musical skills progressively and securely.

Music is a powerful way to bring people together, and we aim to help our pupils connect with others while realising their creative potential. Pupils will have the opportunity to play a variety of instruments, including the piano, rock band instruments, and world instruments such as Samba drums and bongos. They will develop the knowledge and technical skills needed to compose, perform, and appreciate musical works, gaining hands-on experience with a range of instruments.

Our inclusive curriculum is designed to motivate and engage all pupils, regardless of ability, and to support communication through music. Each project focuses on a different theme to maintain pupil interest and introduce new knowledge. A repetition-based approach is used to deepen understanding of musical concepts. By exploring the same concept through varied musical activities, pupils can achieve mastery and confidence in their musical abilities.

Our music curriculum is adapted to incorporate elements of the Model Music Curriculum that are most appropriate for our pupils. At Key Stage 3, all pupils following the semi-formal curriculum receive one music lesson per week. Medium-term plans are regularly reviewed and updated to ensure our provision continues to meet the individual needs of our learners. Pupil work is documented using Seesaw. At Key Stage 4, students have the option to pursue an Arts Award qualification, with the opportunity to focus on music or performing arts.

## 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.

To ensure broad access to music education, we have developed a structured timetable for peripatetic provision and conducted a pupil survey to gather feedback on our instrumental offer. Reflecting our strong commitment to music, we aligned the number of peripatetic teaching hours with the growth in pupil numbers. We now provide free lessons in guitar, violin, and piano, all of which are fully subscribed, with a waiting list of pupils eager to join.

Guitar lessons are primarily offered to less confident learners or those with a keen interest in music, typically taught in small groups of three to four. Currently, 26 pupils across Key Stages 3 and 4, including base classes, are accessing these sessions. Piano lessons are delivered individually, with 10 pupils currently participating—over half of whom are working toward Performing Arts qualifications, while others demonstrate strong musical potential. Violin is also taught through one-to-one lessons, with five pupils preparing for Grade 2 or 3 exams; one of these pupils also performs with the Knowsley Orchestra. Pupils participating in peripatetic lessons are provided with the opportunity to loan musical instruments for home use, enabling them to continue practising and enhancing their skills and passion for music beyond the classroom

Progression in instrumental skills is clearly outlined in our Music subject overview, which maps instrument development across units of work.

Over the past few years, we have dedicated significant effort to re-establishing our school choir. To support its success, a weekly timetabled session is led by one of our music teachers, providing choir members with regular opportunities to rehearse together. The choir has been given several platforms to perform both within and beyond the school community. Notable performances include appearances at our Celebration Enrichment Passport Graduation Ceremony and Awards Assemblies. Additionally, our music teacher leads an annual collaboration with Stockbridge Village Primary School, culminating in a performance at Alder Hey.

## 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.

Throughout Key Stage 3, pupils have the opportunity to take part in performances, including the annual Christmas singing event where they can perform for their peers and parents during awards assemblies.

In Year 9, all pupils also have the opportunity to learn about the Philharmonic Orchestra and attend a live performance as part of a school trip. This experience is offered to all pupils, with a voluntary contribution to cover the cost.

Alt Bridge Voice is an annual event open to pupils from all key stages, who are invited to audition. Following initial heats and semi-finals, a selection of pupils are chosen to perform in the final. The event is planned and coordinated by the music department in collaboration with KS4 pupils working towards their Arts Award qualification. As part of their role, these pupils support the organisation of the event and assist with music setup and technical arrangements.

As part of our KS4 enrichment and qualifications programme, pupils have the opportunity to attend a variety of events and productions, including performances of Wicked and Blood Brothers. We have established links with Shakespeare North, where pupils take part in free workshops exploring careers in backstage theatre. Additionally, a unit of work is delivered in collaboration with the Royal Opera House, in which teachers guide pupils through ballets such as The Magic Flute and Alice in Wonderland.

## In the future

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

### Future Development of the Music Curriculum at Alt Bridge

At Alt Bridge, we are committed to continually developing our music curriculum to ensure it remains broad, balanced, and engaging. We will continue to explore a diverse range of musical genres, styles, and traditions from various cultures and historical periods. Regular, timetabled music lessons will remain a key part of our formal curriculum, with further development of semi-formal pathways to meet a range of learning needs.

To ensure our curriculum is fully inclusive and accessible, we will explore the use of alternative instruments, enabling every pupil to participate meaningfully and experience success in music. Pupils will have regular opportunities to engage in music through singing, playing instruments, and composing.

Our staff will continue to benefit from CPD and training provided by our local music hub, helping to ensure they are confident and well-equipped to deliver high-quality music education. We will also embrace opportunities beyond the classroom,

encouraging pupils to grow their passion for music through community involvement and external events.

Performance opportunities will continue to be a key focus, both within school and in the wider community. Music will remain a valued and well-supported subject at Alt Bridge, with strong leadership backing. Our planning will be clear, regularly monitored, and assessed to support continual improvement and celebrate pupil achievement.

## Further information (optional)

The Department for Education publishes a guide for parents and young people on how you can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people>

A menu of activities provided by the local music hub which is delivered by key partners, including ensemble music groups can be seen below.

<https://api.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/20250508-Ensemble-Activity.pdf>

If you want further information about the local music hub see link below.

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/MusicHubs#section-1>