



Music development plan summary: Woodlands Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	05.09.24
Date this summary will be reviewed	05.09.25
Name of the school music lead	Kirsty Stansfield
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Alistair Rea
Name of local music hub	Nottingham Music Hub

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.

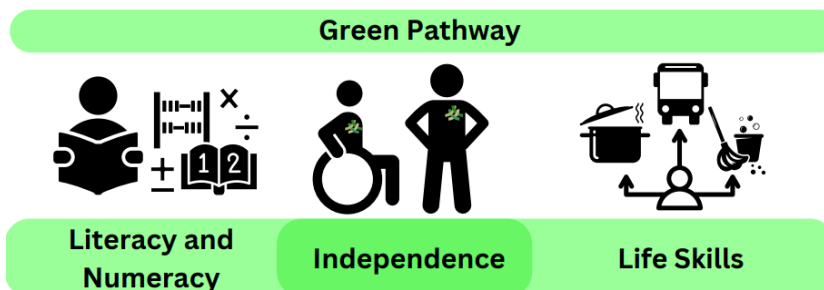
Curriculum music

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.



The **Yellow Pathway** supports learners with the most significant educational needs. These young people have needs including ASD, PMLD, Speech, Language and Communication and Physical disabilities. The **Yellow Pathway** curriculum is informed by the EYFS Framework and the Engagement Model. The **Yellow Pathway** utilises the TEACCH® Approach of structured teaching. Pupils are taught a range of communication strategies and a bespoke personal care routine to support and develop independence. In KS4, most pupils on the Yellow Pathway focus on continuing to develop their communication, personal care and independence skills alongside AQA Unit Awards.

Pupils in EYFS-KS4 on the **Yellow Pathway** access music as part of their sensory curriculum offer, both in discrete timetabled sessions and as an ongoing and embedded part of their daily learning encounters. Music is used in communication-focused lessons and activities, with singing and instruments used to support pupils' skills, knowledge and understanding around pace, tempo, greetings, turn-taking and independence. Cross-curricular links are also made between teaching and learning of environmental and musical sounds in phonics and music. Pupils are assessed against the Engagement Model on the Yellow Pathway.



The **Green Pathway** supports learners with significant educational needs who are also able to engage in subject-specific learning. These young people have needs including ASD, MLD, SLD, SEMH, Speech Language and Communication and Physical disabilities. Pupils on the **Green Pathway** are taught a broad and balanced curriculum with a focus on phonics, literacy, numeracy and life skills to support and develop independence. The **Green Pathway** is informed by the EYFS Framework and National Curriculum KS1-KS3. In KS4, most pupils on the Green Pathway work towards AQA Unit Awards and Entry Level Qualifications.

Pupils in KS2 and KS3 of our **Green Pathway** have two timetabled lessons of music per week as part of their curriculum offer. One of these lessons is taught by a music specialist from Nottingham Music Hub, the focus of these lessons is becoming familiar with, and learning to play, musical instruments, whilst working towards participating in an ensemble performance. These lessons are sequential and tailored to the bespoke needs of individual classes and pupils. The other timetabled lesson focuses on active listening, with pupils experiencing music from a range of artists and styles from traditional and historical to the present day. These active lessons allow pupils to learn and revisit a breadth of music terminology, in line with the National Curriculum, and



encourage pupils to express their emotional responses and preferences. Pupils are assessed against the National Curriculum on the Green Pathway. We are currently exploring suitable music qualification offers for pupils on the Green Pathway.

Through all of our learning pathways, music is used during key transitions, either from one activity to another, or from one learning environment for another. Pupils access a 'minute of listening' once a week as part of their tutor time.

Pupils on the [Blue Pathway](#) are encouraged to create their own bespoke, and appropriate, music playlists to listen to during recognised times within the school day.

Extra-Curricular music

This is about opportunities we provide 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.

Pupils access a range of instruments as part of their music lessons and experiences at Woodlands Academy. One-to-one musical instrument tuition is not currently offered due to the community aspect of music at Woodlands.



Pupils across all three learning pathways are encouraged to join the Woodlands Choir which combines singing and Makaton signing. Our Woodlands Choir meet once a week, with pupil voice playing a key part in the songs and signs that pupils learn and subsequently perform.

Musical performances

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.

Pupils have the opportunity to sing and perform in front of parents, carers, staff and guests from across the Academy Trust during:

- A Taste of Woodlands, the annual showcase of children's creative talent that takes place at the end of the Spring Term
- The Christmas Fair
- The Summer Fair
- Weekly assemblies



We are also developing and widening opportunities for our pupils to perform, such as on educational visits within the local and wider community (such as pantomimes and choir performances).

In the future...

This is about what we are planning for subsequent years.

Woodlands Academy have increased the number of music lessons for pupils on the Green Pathway for the academic year 2024-25, with one lesson having a theory-based approach to music, focusing on active listening.

Woodlands Academy is exploring the opportunity to offer an entry level qualification in Creative, Media and Performance Arts.

Woodlands Academy has updated its methods of assessment for music, creating a further connected assessment approach between Nottingham Music Hub and Woodlands Academy, alongside the Engagement Model for pupils on the Yellow Pathway.

Woodlands Academy is also looking to develop closer ties with the local community and other educational settings, with a view to Woodlands' pupils singing, signing and playing in other venues and at a range of events. There will be further exploration around educational visits to live performances.

Woodlands Academy is looking towards further tailoring its music curriculum towards individual pupils' interests, whilst also considering appropriate music resources for this delivery in future academic years.

Further information

Useful links for Pupils, Parents, Carers and Staff:

Music Education Hubs: [Music Education Hubs | Arts Council England](#)

The Department for Education Guide: [guide for parents and young people](#)

Nottingham Music Hub: [Home | Nottingham Music Hub](#)

Minute of Listening: [Home - Minute of Listening](#)

MusiQuest 2024: [MusiQuest 2024 | Nottingham Music Hub](#)

Arts Council Posters:

What does MUSIC mean to you?

Speak to your music teacher and discover what you can get involved in, and what help you can get to make music.

Your musical journey...

- Music lessons and clubs in school
- Learn to play an instrument, to sing and to create music
- Music clubs or groups outside of school
- Where could music take you next?

The government published **The Power of Music to Change Lives – The National Plan for Music Education** – in 2022 to help all young people have a brilliant music education, regardless of where you are in the country or your background.

WHERE COULD MUSIC TAKE YOU?

HM Government

“I didn't have the ability to sit still or the motivation to study. Music allowed me to experiment and express myself.”
James, 17, cellist and music student

“In Syria, I had family, friends and everything. When I moved to the UK I had to make a new life. Beatboxing filled that gap for me.”
Naeim, AKA Madz, 25, musician

“I started my radio show to bring a different outlook to my college.”
Jade, 21, DJ, podcaster and radio presenter

“Music has made me the person I am today: it helped with my confidence and leadership skills.”
Emily, 21, scientist

Many musical activities are available for free or with financial support.

Speak to your music teacher and discover what you can get involved in, and what help you can get to make music.

- Music lessons, clubs and groups
- Play an instrument, sing and create music
- Perform and share your music
- Go to live performances
- Take qualifications in music
- A career in music or the creative industry

The government published **The Power of Music to Change Lives – The National Plan for Music Education** – in 2022 to help all young people have a brilliant music education, regardless of where you are in the country or your background.