

# Music development plan summary: Anglo European School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	1/9/24
Date this summary will be reviewed	1/9/25
Name of the school music lead	S Barden, Head of Music
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	C Peeters, Associate Deputy Headteacher
Name of local music hub	Essex Music Hub
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, 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

### Curriculum

The Music Department seeks to develop students' musical experiences through singing, listening, composing and performing. Students will perform, listen to and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions and use their knowledge to compose music that is stylistically convincing. They will be taught instrumental skills for keyboard, ukulele and guitar, and perform solo as well as part of a whole-class ensemble. Students will understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated through manipulation of the elements of music. They will gain experience using a range of notations.

Students are taught basic instrument skills from Year 7 which enable them to engage with the subject and access more advanced content. They perform a variety of styles using popular instruments as well as tuned and untuned percussion. There is a strong focus on singing and ensemble skills. Styles studied at Key Stage 3 include Blues, Jazz, Ska and Reggae, Musical Theatre and Minimalism. We perform, compose and analyse these genres through examination of the elements of music: Melody, Articulation, Dynamics, Time/Tempo, Structure, Harmony, Instruments, Rhythm and

Texture. Our Music curriculum has a strong international focus, and the study of world music is integral to our offering. Students are taught how to improvise as well as perform from notation. Music theory is taught with a practical focus and activities are related to real-world examples. Music is always taught by doing music rather than learning about music.

Detailed curriculum information for each year group can be found at

<https://www.aesessex.co.uk/home/curriculum/the-anglo-curriculum/departments-and-subjects/the-arts/music/>

Students should be able to understand the musical process and recognise Music and the Arts as a valid career path. Students should also recognise the transferable skills they can gain in our subject. They should be creative, inquisitive, confident, focused, respectful, resilient and risk takers. It is our aim that our students are exposed to different aspects of the study of music and learn how these may be applied to the real world as part of their careers programme.

### **SEND**

The Music Department always aims to maintain an inclusive learning environment. Students with additional needs often have the support of additional staff in music lessons. We adapt our teaching and provide suitable resources to address potential areas of difficulty and to remove barriers to pupil achievement.

### **Allocation**

Music is taught one-hour per week at Key Stage 3. At Key Stage 4, Year 10 students are taught two hours per week and Year 11 have five hours across two weeks. KS5 students have four hours face-to-face per week.

### **Exam years**

We currently teach the OCR (J536) specification at GCSE and AQA (7272) at A-Level

## **Part B: Co-curricular music**

### **Ensembles**

As part of our outstanding Arts provision, the Music Department aims to develop wider opportunities for students to participate in ensembles, bands and group performances. Our AM school runs before school and during tutor period Monday to Thursday.

Current ensembles are Orchestra, Vocal Ensemble, Year 7, Year 8 and Year 9 bands and GCSE ensembles. We provide opportunities for these ensembles to perform publicly, both at external venues and events, school concerts, collaborative arts events and in our own assemblies. All ensembles are free to join.

Our three major performances across the year are the Christmas Concert, Eisteddfod and the whole-school production.

A number of our students also take part in the Essex Youth Orchestra and other ensembles coordinated by the [Essex Music Hub](#) such as String and Choral ensembles.

### **Tuition**

The school offers music tuition via the County Council's instrument tuition scheme at a cost of approximately £97.00 per term for a weekly individual lesson of 15 minutes. Essex Music Services vouchers are accepted to help with these costs. Instruments which can be studied include the flute, clarinet, saxophone, piano/keyboard, violin, drums, singing and all styles of guitar. Students can work towards grades in ABRSM, Trinity or RockSchool music exams.

A grant system exists to support students who wish to pursue music tuition to support their GCSE, A level or IB Music studies and who may not have the financial means to do so and who meet certain criteria. Students who are eligible for Pupil Premium support may also qualify. Applications for financial assistance with school activities should be made to the school Finance Office. Vouchers for music tuition are available for low-income families. Information about vouchers for low-income families and Looked After Children (LAC), children subject to a Special Guardianship Order (SGO), Child Arrangement Order (CAO) or Children adopted from care can be found here <http://www.essexmusichub.org.uk/site/> For support with or advice on application, please speak to our PPG coordinator, Mrs V. Edge Baron or Head of Music, Mr S. Barden.

If students wish to hire an instrument, they can contact Essex Music Services <https://www.essexmusichub.org.uk/site/parents-carers/instrument-hire/>

We have a number of practice rooms which students can access outside of lesson time as well as the two main music teaching rooms which also act as rehearsal spaces.

## **Part C: Musical experiences**

Our first major performance of the academic year is our annual Christmas Concert which takes place in the village of Ingatestone at the church of St Edmund and St Mary's. The evening showcases performances from all our AM School ensembles, including orchestra and choir, and provides an opportunity for soloists and student-led ensembles to perform.

Our annual Eisteddfod takes place in the Spring Term and open to all students. It draws on the Welsh tradition of Eisteddfodau, gathering the very best musicians, poets, thespians and dancers to a very special celebration of the Arts. Our Eisteddfod also celebrates what makes our school distinctive; its international curriculum and ethos. Students must audition to take part, encouraging them to develop their confidence and resilience.

Our whole-school production is a cross-curricular event with the Art and Drama departments and invites students from all year groups to take part. Past shows have included Moana, We Will Rock You and Mary Poppins.

Students also have the opportunity to perform at various events throughout the year including our awards evenings at Anglia Ruskin University in Chelmsford and our end of term assemblies.

We plan to attend concerts outside of school including the London Philharmonic Orchestra's BrightSparks concert for GCSE students. We are also looking to work with our Chinese teachers in the Languages department to invite in a group of Chinese musicians to deliver a Chinese music workshop.

Our international visits programme is planned with the Music curriculum in mind and includes visits to theatres and galleries around the world where our students experience the world music that they have studied in the classroom in its local context, such as Chinese drumming in Beijing and Viennese opera in Austria.

## In the future

Anglo European School is about to undergo a major rebuild which will include the music department and the school's main hall. This will offer us an opportunity to improve our curriculum with the expansion of our music technology facilities and performance spaces. We will also be able to provide more space for individuals and ensembles to rehearse and the hall will be modernised with new sound and lighting facilities for our concert and assembly performances. We are also planning external concert visits and in-school workshops for GCSE and A-Level students over the course of the next academic year.

We are committed to offering music education across all key stages. We seek to enthuse our students in KS3 so that music remains a popular option for GCSE and in turn in the sixth form.

## Further information

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

[Essex Music Hub](#) has a local plan for music education and supports the delivery of 1:1 tuition at Anglo European School. They also provide resources, instruments and run larger ensembles across the county.