

Music development plan summary: LEAF Studio

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Karl Hayman
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Geoff Lake
Name of local music hub	Soundstorm
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

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 taught at Key Stage 4 to follow the Edexcel GCSE course, with a parallel option of NCFE Music Technology Level 2. This allows different approaches to learning and discovery of musical journeys and supporting the progression of music through both traditional and supplementary avenues.

Further information can be found on the Music/Music Technology pages on the school website, linked below:

<https://www.leafstudio.co.uk/performing-arts/gcsemusic/>

<https://www.leafstudio.co.uk/performing-arts/ncfemusicitech/>

At Key Stage 5, students undertake a BTEC in Performing Arts, which encompasses the combined skills of Dance, Singing and Acting, along with a far-reaching training

and coaching timetable to develop specific skills suitable for industry employment. Further information provided here:

<https://www.leafstudio.co.uk/performing-arts/sixthform/>

All Performing Arts students have access to ensemble vocal lessons on their timetable, which also includes opportunities for solo performance and development.

Currently the school offers individual vocal lessons through a selection of coaches, covering both Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5.

The school is supported by Soundstorm Music Hub, where supportive practice in composition and performance is enlisted to compliment the curriculum followed by students.

Part B: Extra 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.

LEAF Studio currently offers private vocal lessons to students, with monitoring for the inclusion of other instruments should demand rise. Lessons are charged at £60 per half term, with a concession for Pupil Premium students automatically in place.

Pupils can join and take part in small ensembles covering popular music genres through their timetabled training sessions and further beyond, allowing the development of individual character and direction. Students are encouraged to work with others on original compositions and songwriting, along with the performance of existing works with opportunities for students across different year groups to work together to complement each other's skill sets.

Students are welcome to the loaning of instruments to further support their progression and can be arranged in discussion with the Music Lead.

Ensemble vocal opportunities arise through the year, with a variety of external performance events scheduled on a consistent basis.

Students have access to a designated rehearsal space, along with opportunities to utilise classroom spaces under supervision.

Part C: Musical Experiences & Events

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.

Performing Arts students at LEAF are supported in their development through regular opportunities to experience live music and musical theatre – both in line with the specifications of taught syllabus content, and wider interest events. For instance, this year sees opportunities to watch the theatre production of Wicked and performed music of John Williams (GCSE Music syllabus) along with smaller events such as the Studio Jazz events held at Poole Lighthouse.

Opportunities to perform are staged throughout the year, with vocal showcase events for both lower school and Sixth Form in January, local Christmas events, 3 yearly concerts for performing in musical ensembles (December, March, July) and a large-scale show in July of each academic year. This is supplemented by further opportunities that appear on an ad hoc basis, or individual to the year at hand.

Students are involved intrinsically through the programmes offered at LEAF Studio, but are also welcome to become involved by speaking with the Music Lead. Young musicians may not always study Music as part of their options choices, but every opportunity is taken to involve them where possible, widening the mix of young musicians and the opportunities we seek to provide.

External events are ticketed, with varying costs. The income raised through events is returned to the students by investment into the Performing Arts department and the opportunities we provide both internally and externally.

In the future

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

Our offer for Music continually evolves to provide appropriate and aspirational opportunities for our students.

Development in live events for our students as performers will continue by the outreach to different venues to support continued growth.

Our curriculum offer is continually under review to ensure the greatest affinity to the needs of our students, and maintained development of musicianship. This is relevant to both the Music and Music Technology qualifications offered.

This year has seen an increase in contact time with Year 11 Music students in class due to a wider school curriculum amendment, and this will be monitored and reviewed for implementation going forward.

Peripatetic lesson offers will be extended to a wider selection of instruments based on the demand and requirement of the students, where the school is in regular contact with parents & carers to seek where this is desired.