

# Music development plan summary: Willingdon Community School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	24 October 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	01 September 2026
Name of the school music lead	S Parry
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	A Walters
Name of local music hub	East Sussex Music
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 and 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.

**Year 7 - 1 x 60 minute lesson per week.**

**Year 8 - 1 x 60 minute lesson per week.**

**Year 9 - 1 x 60 minute lesson per week.**

**Years 7 and 8 (Music Tech pathway on rotation):**  
**- 1 x 60 minute lesson per week for one term per year, per class.**

**Years 10 and 11 - 5 x 60 minute lessons per fortnight. Eduqas GCSE Music syllabus.**

**Year 7**

**HT 1**

Elements of Music and Instruments of the Orchestra

**HT 2**

Beethoven's Ode to Joy

**HT 3**

Film Music

**HT 4**

Folk Music

**HT 5**

Rhythm and Percussion

**HT 6**

The Voice

**Year 7 - Music Tech on rotation**

Introduction to Garageband software.

Dua Lipa - One Kiss Project.

**Year 8**

**HT 1**

Ternary Form

**HT 2**

Blues Music

**HT 3**

Reggae Music

**HT 4**

What makes a good song?

**HT 5**

Ground Bass

**HT 6**

The Voice Part 2

**Year 8 - Music Tech on rotation**

Garageband mastery.

Sampling Project.

**Year 9****HT 1**

Classical Music - 2 hands project

**HT 2**

Writing a Pop Song - composing

**HT 3**

Film Music

**HT 4**

Programme Music

**HT 5**

Minimalism

**HT 6**

Music Tech

**Years 10 and 11: GCSE Music (Eduqas) course.**

**Graded exams for ABRSM, Trinity and RSL are offered to students by our Visiting Music Teachers.**

## Part B: Co-curricular music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music outside of lesson time. This includes choirs, ensembles and bands, and enables pupils to make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

### **Extra-curricular music**

**A team of Visiting Music Teachers offer one to one and group lessons on the following instruments:**

**Singing**

**Piano / Keyboard**

**Drum Kit**

**Violin**

**Guitar and Bass**

**Trumpet**

### **School Band – All year groups**

Weekly after school sessions open to all year groups. Linked to summer Open Mic outdoor Concert Performance as part of our Phoenix Festival. Develops arranging, song writing and improvising skills. Access to amplifiers, drum kit and electronic drum kits and synths.

### **Willingdon String Ensemble – All year groups**

Open to all string players. Weekly lunchtime school sessions. This ensemble performs in our Christmas Concert and Phoenix Festival and perform a range of repertoire suitable for beginner, intermediate and advanced players.

### **School Choir – All year groups**

Open to all singers in all year groups. This ensemble performs in our Christmas Concert and Phoenix Festival and perform repertoire in a range of styles.

### **Musical Theatre Group – All year groups**

Open to all singers in all year groups. This ensemble stages a Musical annually in the Spring Term.

### **Smaller Ensembles – All year groups**

We have a large number of smaller groups that rehearse on a weekly basis throughout the year in preparation for concerts and performances both inside and outside of the school. This includes a large number of bands and vocal ensembles as well as a variety of instrumental and vocal groups.

## Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts, shows, and trips to professional concerts.

### **Musical events**

Willingdon is a musical school and music is a valued part of school life. The annual calendar is rich with popular events and flagship performance opportunities.

We provide opportunities for students to experience live music making in a variety of genres:

### **Create Music Workshops - September**

In September each year, Create Music visit the school to give a demonstration to the Year 7 cohort of the instruments that are available to learn at Willingdon Community School. As part of the presentation, students experience the excitement of seeing and hearing a demonstration of the instruments that are available to learn and are also given an opportunity to 'try out' some of the instruments.

### **Christmas Concert - End of Autumn Term**

Large scale concert comprising of Instrumental and Vocal Solos and Ensembles as well as performances from some of our Rock Bands, Choirs, String Ensemble and Music Theatre Group.

### **Musical - Spring Term**

A Musical is staged each year in the Spring Term, accompanied by an in-house band made up of students.

### **Phoenix Festival - Summer Term**

Large scale outdoor concert in the school grounds featuring instrumental and Vocal Solos and Ensembles as well as performances from some of our Rock Bands, Choirs, String Ensemble and Music Theatre Group.

### **Smaller Scale Musical events - at various times throughout the year**

Smaller scale musical events / performances both inside and outside of school also take place at various times throughout the academic year.

### **Performances in assemblies**

Students perform in assemblies at various times throughout the year both as soloists as well as in ensembles.

### **Singing assemblies**

Singing assemblies take place at various times throughout the year to develop students' singing skills. As part of these assemblies, students are introduced to choral music in a variety of styles and genres.

## **In the future**

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

*We are in the process of implementing an exciting and eclectic KS3 music curriculum that better prepares students for GCSE Music. The curriculum focuses on a balance between composition, musical appreciation and performance. The focus remains on engaging all students and fostering a love of music whilst ensuring they are equipped with solid musical foundations should they wish to study the subject at a higher level.*

*We are also keen to increase the number of students receiving instrumental and vocal lessons by raising awareness of the benefits of learning an instrument through year group workshops and demonstrations in class.*

## **Further information (optional)**