

Music development plan summary: Sackville School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Alistair Webb
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Stephanie Hunt
Name of local 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

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.

We believe that students deserve a broad and ambitious music curriculum, rich in skills and knowledge, which ignites curiosity and prepares them well for future learning or employment. Our music curriculum will give students the opportunity to:

- Develop a thorough understanding of music, through performing, composing listening, analysing and recording
- Develop self-confidence through performance, both through lessons and extra-curricular participation
- Encourage creativity through composition skills
- Understand the complexities of music through analysis of a wide range of genres from different musical and cultural perspectives

- Encourage personal development through ensemble performances and group compositions
- Understand how music can support the development of life skills, such as confidence, self awareness, perseverance and discipline and provide a holistic experience that they can take beyond their musical studies
- Develop their cross-curricular skills of problem solving, perseverance, diligence, team work, time management, organisation, responsibility and cultural history
- Gain a sense of achievement through performance

Students have two hours per fortnight in Music throughout Years 7, 8 and 9 to deliver this curriculum. This is further supplemented by an extensive instrumental tuition offer which also takes place throughout the school day.

The Music department at Sackville is well resourced and is well established in offering a range of extra-curricular opportunities to further enhance our core offer. The core curriculum is based on the Music Model Curriculum.

You can see a full overview of our Music Curriculum offer [here](#).

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.

In addition to core timetabled music lessons, Sackville offers a range of instrumental and vocal tuition opportunities. These include:

- vocal / singing one-to-one and small group tuition
- piano / keyboard lessons
- guitar (acoustic and electric) and bass guitar lessons
- string (violin/viola) lessons
- drum lessons
- brass (cornet, trumpet, euphonium, trombone, baritone, tuba) lessons
- saxophone and clarinet lessons
- flute lessons

The school works in partnership with West Sussex Music Service and independent tutors to provide this suite of music tuition.

All families that wish to, are able to access these lessons if cost is a barrier the West Sussex Music Service offers a Bursary Fund as support. As well as this suite of instrumental / vocal lessons, Sackville offers the following ensemble opportunities at no cost to students:

- Ukulele Club
- Sackville Singers
- Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4/5 Band
- Classical Ensemble

Students that do not have their own instrument and for whom the cost of this would be a barrier are also eligible for the Bursary Fund to reduce fees for instrument hire.

Also, students regularly undertake their own informal solo and ensemble practice by accessing the facilities in the music department before school, during social times and after school each day. This results in student-led bands and vocalists emerging organically which are then further supported by music staff.

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.

The school production is a huge event in the Sackville calendar and one where there is significant musical experience for those involved. Auditions are held across all year groups in school and c.50 performers are cast each year. The Music department is involved in forming the band for the show and delivering live musical performance as part of the experience.

Seasonal concerts include the Winter Concert ahead of the end of the Autumn Term and the Carol Concert held at the local church. Both of these events feature student performers from across the school, showcasing school talent.

Performances from student musicians are also scheduled for various events throughout the year from assemblies to parent and open evenings. This gives an opportunity for students from all year groups to have an opportunity to perform within a variety of formats. Assemblies and other student events are often planned with a musical performance involved to give further opportunities for this.

To link with the local community Sackville have regularly hosted primary school music events where pupils from local schools have visited to take part in group musical events, supported by staff and our students.

Also linking to the local area we regularly host EGGSFest, a live music event involving local primary schools and their pupils and families to take part in an outdoor live music event along with our own students.

In the future

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

Plans for the future are to continue to grow the Music department and musical opportunities for our students in several ways;

To broaden the range and scope of instrumental lessons offered by increasing the numbers of students taking these up and further grow the offer available.

As a result of and alongside this, to further grow membership of our musical ensembles to increase the breadth of instruments and the amount of performers within these to offer this opportunity to a larger number of students.

To build upon the successful live performances in school with these increasing in frequency providing further opportunities for a wider range of students to both take part in and experience live music.