The Salesian Academy of St. John Bosco

Music Development Plan 2024.2025

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	December 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	M McCarthy
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	J Aspinall
Name of local music hub	Sefton Music Service
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.

At The Salesian Academy of St John Bosco, pupils study music for one hour per fortnight in Key Stage 3 in Year 7,8 and 9.

Our curriculum is partly informed by the Model Music Curriculum (MMC). However, learning schemes have been created and adapted to suit the demographics of the pupils taught here, for both engagement and understanding.

Pupils have the opportunity to learn to play and develop on keyboard, guitar, djembe and glockenspiel, and using music technology online to compose and create music. In Year 7-9 pupils work individually, in pairs and in ensembles to develop as performers and composers. Whole class singing tuition takes place in Year 7 and whole class guitar tuition takes place in Year 8. Pupils experience whole-class and ensemble drumming in Year 8 during the African drumming scheme of learning and pupils work as ensembles during their singing, keyboard, guitar and glockenspiel lessons. Pupils use the Bandlab for Education platform to create music online during Year 9.

We work very closely with the Sefton Music Service (local music hub) on classroom and co-curricular music. We also have strong working partnerships with the other secondary schools in the MAT, working together on curriculum planning, deliver and assessment. We have a strong link with Mya Space, a local Performing Arts Project group who supports on tuition and during school productions and events.

Part B: Co-curricular Music (Music Tuition and 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.

At The Salesian Academy of St John Bosco, pupils have the opportunity to receive high-quality small-group and whole class group tuition on the guitar and in singing. Singing takes place as both whole class groups in Year 7 and in small ensembles and solos during singing tuition. These lessons take place during the school day in a variety of venues around the school building and are offered free of charge. Our primary provider for instrumental tuition is Sefton Music Service.

ENSEMBLES

Pupils can join our choir ensemble which takes place during after school sessions each week. Pupils can borrow instruments from school for practice (this is free) and there are spaces available during break and lunch for private practice and small group rehearsal.

Part C: Musical events and 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.

All of Yr 7 will be involved in whole class singing workshops with visiting singing specialists. The choir group also perform each year during school feast events and there is a talent show for the singers who have been having tuition to showcase their work and talents. The first of these took place in Summer 2024.

Pupils can take part in a range of trips to experience Musical theatre productions. These take place up to three times per year and are open to all Year groups.

As part of the offering arranged with the Sefton Music Service, during our Patron Saint's feast day, an ensemble of pupils perform work created during the days workshop to whole school year groups. This often uses drumming in whole groups and small ensembles on the djembes.

In the future

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

We hope to be able to expand our co-curricular offer by increasing the amount of instrumental teaching time available, as well as increasing the opportunities for pupils to experience live performance.

Pupils in Yr 7 will attend a concert at the end of the Spring term each year to expose them to the classical musical genre at the Philharmonic. The first is booked for March 2025. Year 8 will also be exposed to Music in Film through the classical genre via a string quartet that will visit school each year during the school day for a classical strings concert. The first of these is booked for 2025 in school.