

Music development plan summary: Knole Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-7
Date this summary was published	January 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Abbey Lawrie
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Kent Music

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.

KS3 students receive 1 hour of classroom music lessons per week with a music specialist teacher, incorporating musical performance and rehearsals, analysis and listening skills and composition tasks.

At KS3 students cover the following topics:

Year 7- Elements of Music, Keyboards & Treble Clef Notation, Rhythm Notation, Instruments of the Orchestra, Major and Minor and Cartoon Music.

Year 8- The Blues, Pop songs, African music, The Beatles, Samba and a Bandlab composition project.

Year 9- Film music, Musical Theatre, Ground Bass & Bass Clef Notation, Baroque, Classical and Romantic era music.

At KS4 we offer GCSE Music (Edexcel 9-1 Specification) for current Year 11 and BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice Level 2 to students in Year 10. Students who have opted to study Music GCSE or BTEC at KS4 receive 5 hours of music lessons per fortnight. These courses allow students to develop skills in both solo and ensemble

performance, songwriting and composition, music theory and analysis, as well as the opportunity to develop their music technology skills using software such as Ableton, Bandlab and MuseScore.

At KS5 we offer the BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance. These students receive 4 hours of music lessons per week. This course focuses on developing an understanding of practical music theory and harmony, composition and arranging, solo performance, ensemble performance, and roles within the music industry and music business. Students studying the Music BTEC at KS5 also receive one funded 30 minute lesson each week on their main instrument or voice.

Students who are having instrumental or vocal lessons with our peripatetic music teachers have the option to be entered to take graded music exams if desired (ABRSM, Rockschoool and Trinity), and this can be arranged directly between parents and the peripatetic teacher.

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.

We offer weekly 30-minute individual and paired instrumental and vocal lessons that take place in the music practice rooms during the school day on a rotating timetable. We offer tuition on the following instruments: voice, piano, drums, guitar, bass, ukulele, saxophone, clarinet, flute, violin, cello, trumpet and trombone, as well as DJ and production lessons in the school studio.

School subsidised lessons are available for students who are in receipt of pupil premium funding and free school meals.

Where availability allows, the school will loan instruments to students who are in receipt of pupil premium funding and free school meals.

We run a variety of free weekly music ensembles that any students can join:

Orchestra- Wednesday lunchtimes

Chamber Choir- Thursday lunchtimes

Jazz Ensemble- Tuesday lunchtimes

Knole Singers- Friday lunchtimes

Ukulele Group- Monday lunchtimes

Music Tech & Production Club- Friday lunchtimes

We offer space for group band practice in the music practice rooms every day at break and lunchtime.

The practice rooms in the music department are also available for students to practice individually at break, lunchtime and after school.

Part C: Musical 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.

Year 7 Music Showcase- Autumn Term (performance Year 7s)

Open Mic Night- Autumn Term (performance Year 7-13)

Winter Concert- Autumn Term (performance Year 7-13)

Carol Singing at local care home- Autumn Term (performance Year 7-13)

Christmas Assembly Performances- Autumn Term

GCSE Music Recital- Spring Term (performance Year 10 & 11)

Musical Theatre Visit to London- Spring Term (audience)

Open Mic Night- Spring Term (performance Year 7-13)

Aletheia Trust Joint Concert- Spring Term (choir members)

Joint Music Performance Afternoon with local Primary- Spring Term

Performances at Leavers' Assembly- Summer Term (performance Year 11)

Sevenoaks Festival Youth Music Stage- Summer Term (performance Year 10-13)

Summer Concert- Summer Term (performance Year 7-13)

Music Tour- Summer Term (performance and audience Year 7-13)

For both the music tour and musical theatre visit there are subsidised places available for eligible students receiving Pupil Premium funding and free school meals.

Many of our music performances are free of charge to attend, but for larger scale events, subsidised tickets are available for families receiving pupil premium funding and free school meals.

In the future

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

We aim to continue our high standard of performance, providing regular opportunities for our students to perform both in school and in the wider community, both in local primary schools and care homes. We are hoping to connect with more primary school area.

To recruit more members into school ensembles.

Our aim will be to involve some of our student instrumentalists in the band for the musical school production, collaborating with the Drama department.

We aim to increase the uptake of students learning brass instruments. We aim to try and engage students with lower strings (viola and cello).

KS3 students will remain receiving 1 hour of classroom music lessons per week.

To successfully change over to BTEC Music Practice at KS4 from GCSE.

Further information (optional)

Kent Music:

<https://www.kent-music.com/>

Kent Music Ensembles:

<https://www.kent-music.com/groups/>

Knole Academy Music Department Information (with links to instrumental teacher contact details):

<https://www.knoleacademy.org/470/subjects/subject/34/music>

Arts Council England Music Hub Information:

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/MusicEducationHubs>