

Music development plan summary: New Rush Hall School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 / 2026
Date this summary was published	June 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mr Locke
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	

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.

Music Curriculum

At New Rush Hall School (NRHS,) the music curriculum intends to cultivate pupils' musical abilities with a particular emphasis on new and innovative technologies alongside traditional instrumentation. By integrating cutting-edge tools and techniques, it is intended that pupils are exposed to a dynamic and modern musical experience and will foster a well-rounded understanding of music, whilst having the independence to explore particular areas of interest. This curriculum intends to inspire creativity, encourage experimentation, and prepare pupils for the diverse landscape of contemporary music, promoting a lifelong appreciation for musical expression.

The curriculum is not informed by the government's model music curriculum, we follow a bespoke curriculum tailored to the needs of our pupils, with a strong emphasis on engagement, accessibility, and practical skills development.

Pupils have access to 1:1 instrumental tuition during the school day, including drums, bass, guitar, piano and digital music production. Instrumental work is also integrated into classroom teaching where appropriate.

Pupils are able to complete the BTEC Music qualification in Key Stage 4. While we do not currently offer graded music exams, pupils are supported in building portfolios and recording outcomes aligned with vocational progression routes.

Co-curricular music

Outside of lesson time, pupils can access 1:1 music tuition in a dedicated music studio space. This includes instrumental lessons (drums, bass, guitar, piano) and tuition in music production, recording, and lyric writing. All tuition is provided free of charge to pupils and is delivered either by in-house staff or through commissioned specialist tutors.

Although we do not currently run choirs, there are regular performance opportunities including a popular annual talent show and a whole-school Christmas show. These events feature pupil-led and staff-pupil bands performing live, often with original material created through the school's music programme.

Pupils are encouraged to rehearse and record in the studio space during lunch and after school where possible. Where required, instruments are provided by the school and supported by the staff team to ensure equitable access to music education.

Musical experiences, events and performances

Pupils are actively involved in a range of musical performances throughout the year. These include the annual school talent show and a whole-school Christmas concert, both of which feature solo performances and bands formed by pupils and staff.

Pupils also take part in off-site musical experiences, including theatre trips and visits to music departments at local colleges, which provide insight into musical careers and post-16 education opportunities.

In the future

We plan to expand our co-curricular offer further by introducing more structured enrichment opportunities, including small group music workshops and regular lunchtime rehearsal slots in the studio. We also aim to increase the visibility of pupil music through more frequent informal performances and are exploring the potential of recording and publishing pupil compositions. In the longer term, we hope to expand the BTEC offer and invest in further music production software and technology to support pupils' vocational learning and creativity.