

Music development plan summary: Ormiston SWB Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026/27
Date this summary was published	July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mr G D Kibby
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr K Ellement
Name of local music hub	Wolverhampton Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

Part A: Curriculum music

The music curriculum is planned for KS3 as guided by the DfE National Curriculum. Music skills are sequenced progressively across KS3, considering transition as well as expectations of the KS3 model curriculum, non-statutory guidance. This curriculum supports the development of students' knowledge and understanding.

Assessments in KS3 specifically focus on 'getting better at' music and have clear end points at the end of each year. The Music Department has a bespoke feedback policy where assessments focus on aspects of musicianship, identifying strengths and areas for development using tier 3 vocabulary.

In KS3, curriculum lessons for each year group are timetabled for one hour a week, as the Academy fully supports the aspirations of the National Music Plan. Students can perform, compose and evaluate music as shown in the Long-Term Plan below:

Year 7 - Time Keeping 1, Just Play 1, Orchestra, Time Keeping 2 and Keyboard Skills

Year 8 – The Blues, Just Play 2, Computer Game Music and Musicals

Year 9 – Samba Music, Minimalism, Dance Music and Reggae Music

Music is unique in its ability to develop creative opportunities as well as develop essential skills such as working co-operatively in a group, developing personal expression and character development, offers alternative forms of communication and enhancing a sense of wellbeing and personal achievement.

Students that choose music as an option in KS4 will study for 3 hours a week. Students will follow the BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice. This is a two-year course and includes three units of work – two internally assessed and one externally assessed.

The units are:

Component 1: Exploring Music Products and Styles - Delta Blues, House Music, Reggae Music and Samba Music

Component 2: Music Skills Development

Component 3: Responding to a Music Brief

All curriculum lessons take place in dedicated specialised music rooms which feature a piano, set of keyboards, set of ukuleles, percussion instruments and practice rooms. Students have opportunities to perform using such equipment at various points throughout the year.

Good progress is demonstrated by secure and incremental learning of the technical, constructive, and expressive aspects of music, developing musical understanding. Students with additional needs can participate and engage with music-making.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Ormiston SWB Academy has a strong partnership with the local music hub, Wolverhampton Music Service. It facilitates one to one and group tuition. All students, including the most disadvantaged and students with SEND, have an opportunity to perform regularly.

Students and families facing the largest barriers are given support to engage in music learning as part of, and beyond, the curriculum.

We currently offer specialist instrumental tuition in vocals, brass, woodwind, strings, percussion, guitar and keyboard/piano lessons. The Academy currently has students studying each discipline. Therefore, students can make progress on an instrument beyond the classroom and some equipment is available to loan out to enable students to have opportunities beyond the classroom.

Each student receives 20 minutes of tuition each week. Most students will receive their tuition in small groups. Parents are currently charged £90.00 per term and the Academy subsidises the remaining cost. Students are encouraged to practice individually or in groups using the practice rooms or ensemble music room.

In addition, students are encouraged to work towards graded exams through a range of exam boards including ABRSM, Rock School, Trinity and Wolverhampton Music Service Level 1 Assessments.

Students receiving tuition from the local music hub are encouraged to participate in ensembles which are facilitated and led by the Music Service. We currently have 3 students who participate in this.

Part C: Musical experiences

The Academy takes up opportunities from the Wolverhampton Music Hub (such as Year 7 Orchestra trip) and signposts opportunities for students.

Parents and carers actively support music making, through support at events and through home learning.

Each year, there is an Annual Christmas Showcase that takes place in the Academy. This is an opportunity for individuals and groups to come together and perform on stage in front of an audience.

The Annual School Musical Production is over-subscribed with more students than main roles participating in singing and acting, over two evenings, including performances to primary school children in the run up to the main performance evenings. There is equality of opportunity and typically PP/SEND students are well represented in school shows. In addition, we also encourage students to take part in staging, lighting and sound engineering to allow them to broaden their experience of performing arts. These include:

School of Rock - June 2026

In the Spotlight – July 2025

Beauty and the Beast – April 2025

High School Musical - July 2024

Rumpelstiltskin – December 2023

In the Spotlight - July 2023

Students participate in 'OAT's got Talent', a national academy competition, which the Academy has hosted, the Regional Finals, in 2025 and 2026, where performers are given the opportunity to experience a school talent show, culminating in the most talented making it to the grand final held at Birmingham Rep Theatre in 2025.

Music students in KS4 participate in a music workshop at the University of Staffordshire to broaden their music composing and technology skills.

In addition, all students are invited to watch a pantomime at The Grand Theatre in December. This year, we will be offering tickets to watch 'Treasure Island'.

The SWB Cultural Day is hosted by Mrs Hughes, AHT for Personal Development and Enrichment. Students are encouraged to perform to the whole school in May of each year.

In the future

Continue to offer BTEC music at KS4 and increase student numbers

Plan for the introduction of KS5 BTEC Performing Arts in September 2027.

Continue to encourage instrumentalists to participate in school groups and performances.

Research more opportunities for students to watch live music.

To continue to invest in music technology, including newer purchasing licences for Ableton. Investigate other software available through the Music Service.

Continue to develop students' purposeful independent practice in line with the Academy drive to improve this aspect of pedagogy.

Use the Academy step lab coaching model to continue to improve pedagogy.

The Academy regularly reviews the curriculum and is keen to ensure it keeps up to date with latest trends in music to keep student engagement high.