

# Music development plan summary: Leigh Academy Langley Park

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Stephen Monaco
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Sally Brading
Name of local music hub	Kent Music Hub

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.

**“Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity” (The National Curriculum)**

At Leigh Academy Langley Park, our music curriculum is designed to be inclusive, ensuring that every pupil, regardless of their background or ability, has the opportunity to engage with and excel in music. We provide adapted learning experiences to cater to a wide range of musical abilities, from beginners to advanced pupils. Whether through hands-on practical sessions, individual or group performances, or digital music production, we ensure that all pupils can access and enjoy music in ways that suit their strengths. We actively celebrate diversity by exploring a variety of musical genres, cultures, and traditions, enabling pupils to connect with music from different parts of the world. Additionally, we offer extra-curricular activities, such as choirs and instrumental lessons, that further support and encourage pupils to develop their talents, regardless of their prior musical experience. This inclusive approach fosters a sense of belonging

and ensures that music education at Leigh Academy Langley Park is accessible, engaging, and enriching for every pupil.

Through our music curriculum, we aim to;

- deliver a comprehensive and progressive music curriculum that supports the development of musical skills, knowledge, and understanding.
- foster a love for music through a range of practical, creative, and academic activities.
- support students in exploring diverse musical genres and traditions.
- provide opportunities for performance, both formal and informal, across a variety of platforms.
- develop students' critical thinking, listening, and analytical skills in relation to music.

Our music curriculum is informed by the National Plan – music has the power to change lives – and the [model music curriculum](#) (March 2021) and non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 3 or any other published curriculum guidance.

We dedicate a minimum of one hour a week to music across the whole academy every term, ensuring that lessons happen regularly. We have carefully mapped our timetable to ensure that children experience a consistent diet of music. Where appropriate, music is linked with the children's Central Ideas within their Units of Inquiry as part of the PYP framework. In the units where we cannot make meaningful links with the Units of Inquiry, music is taught in a disciplinary way.

Alongside this, we also have Singing Assemblies every Tuesday and we celebrate a composer of the week in our Monday and Friday assemblies.

We deliver our music curriculum for all year groups using the Music Express scheme which maps out the skills and knowledge that children need to know to be successful in their future learning.

Year 3 and 4 learn to play the recorder.

Year 5 learn to play the ukulele through the Kent Music Hub.

Further information about our music curriculum can be found [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.

We strongly believe that it is important that children have opportunities to extend their musical interest beyond the academy's curriculum. We provide plentiful opportunities and experiences for this throughout the school day.

At lunchtimes, as part of our OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) provision, we have a music zone. Within this zone, children are able to sing along to songs.

We also have a number of peripatetic lessons available to children. These include guitar and piano. For pupils eligible for pupil premium funding, these lessons are subsidised to improve access for all. For children with SEND, and depending on the profile and level of their need, we will ensure that a support member of school staff are present at their instrument lessons as well.

As part of our extra-curricular offer, we have a school choir that runs through the year with the opportunity to perform at the national Young Voices event that is held at the o2.

Further to this, we utilise an organisation called iRock to provide opportunities for children to perform as part of a band or ensemble. Again, we offer subsidised payments for this to ensure that all children have the option to access this.

A core belief of our music provision, is that children have the opportunity to perform what they have been practicing within the music curriculum and the co-curriculum opportunities. This takes a number of forms including;

- Leigh Academy Trust Recorder Festival
- Carol Concert
- Christmas Performances within the academy and the community
- Young Voices
- PYP mini-exhibitions
- iRock assemblies
- Guitar assemblies
- Academy productions (Harvest, Easter and Year 6 Leavers' Performance)

## **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.

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It is also really important for children to experience and observe accomplished musicians perform so we take every opportunity to welcome performers to the school. For example, we welcome a travelling pantomime company every year for the whole school to watch and enjoy. We also often get offered free musical workshops for the children to also engage with. In the summer we also hold the Langley Park music festival at which children, staff and local performers are able to perform for the community.

## In the future

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

In the future we would like to offer increased numbers of peripatetic instrumental lessons to further encourage children's musical creativity.

We also want to continue to maximise the community opportunities that present themselves through welcoming further performers to the school to inspire the children and also to provide opportunities for our pupils to perform.

## Further information (optional)

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

We continue our close work with Kent Music, who are our local music hub. If you want to read more about what they do, please [click here](#).

We are also supported by the Curriculum Advisors from Leigh Academies Trust.