

St Thomas More Catholic School
Music Development Plan 2024/25

This summary was published on: June 2024

Review date: July 2025

Sarah Olsen - Head of Performing Arts

Richard Lennox - Assistant Head Teacher with link responsibility for music

In partnership with - Gateshead Music Service and Durham Music Service?



Rationale

“Music is a cornerstone of the broad and balanced education that every child should receive. It touches hearts and minds, it celebrates and challenges, and it connects us and moves us” *The Power of Music to Change Lives - DFE*

Throughout their school experience students will develop skills as **performing, composing, and appraising** musicians. Pupils will acquire performance skills on a range of instruments and vitally the ability to read musical notation fluently for performance, composing and appraising purposes. They will secure understanding of the musical elements in order to analyse music independently, as well as develop a basic toolkit of compositional skills using notation and sequencing software.

Students will be inspired to appreciate both the performance of music and the joy of listening enabling them to realise their musical potential at school and hopefully beyond into further education and industry.

Our Catholic ethos is at the heart of our music curriculum, extra-curricular offer and in the accompaniment students and staff offer to the range of spiritual events taking place across the year including the Carol Concert and accompaniments for Mass and Collective Worship.

Part A: Curriculum Music

Current Provision KS3

- Student in KS3 currently receive 1 hour of Music per week from Year 7-9
- All students in Year 7 begin their STM music experience by receiving a musical instrument to borrow and lessons focus on the mastery of playing
- Curriculum Model [MUSIC \[Curriculum Overview\] 2023-24](#)

The key concepts are the musical elements which apply to all 3 skill areas: **Performing, Composing, Appraising:**

- Musical Notation
- Dynamics
- Rhythm
- Structure
- Melody
- Instrumentation/Sonority
- Texture
- Harmony and Tonality
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Current Provision KS4

- As part of the Options process students can choose to study GCSE Music
- Year 10 will study the Edexcel specification and Year 11 the Eduqas

Part B: Co-curricular music

Peripatetic Lessons

- We have a team of talented and dedicated self-employed musicians and we also offer peripatetic lessons from Year 7-13. Our current provision can be found below:

Mondays - Woodwind	Tuesdays - Strings	Wednesdays - Brass and Guitar	Fridays
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Flute	Violin	Brass - Trumpet/Cornet/ Trombone/Tuba/ Euphonium/Tenor Horn	Singing
Clarinet	Viola	Guitar	Percussion
Saxophone	Cello	Guitar Ensemble	
		Electric Guitar	

- Students can be entered for ABRSM grades - <https://www.abrsm.org/en-gb>

Current Costs:

<i>Individual Tuition</i> Between £90-108 per term based on 9-12 lessons per half term.	<i>Paired/Small Group Tuition</i> Approximately £65 based on 9-10 lessons per term.
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- If your child is currently in receipt of free school meals, we may be able to make arrangements to fund/subsidise music tuition through school. All requests can be considered via Sarah Olsen - Head of Performing Arts or Stephen Tait our Assistant Head Teacher with responsibility for Pupil Premium.

Extra-Curricular Music Clubs

- Students wishing to expand their love of music can also access our many free extra-curricular clubs. Our current timetable is below:

	Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
Lunchtime	Chamber Choir		Year 7 Performance Club Guitar Ensemble		Composition Clinic Junior Choir

After school		Orchestra	Jazz Band	Whole School Musical	
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- For more information please see any of the Performing Arts staff.
- In addition to this we have 3 Practice Rooms which are available for small groups wishing to rehearse - these can be booked through Performing Arts staff.

Part C: Musical experiences

Performance Opportunities

- Students are invited to take part in our three end of term celebrations of Music scheduled in December, March and July. These performances allow our musicians the opportunity to perform to an audience of parents, friends and family as well members of our wider community.
- In addition, we have our Whole School Musical production in March. Students audition in September and can take on a singing role, be involved backstage or perform in the show band. Past productions include; Grease, We Will Rock You, Fame, Oliver, Les Miserables, Beauty and the Beast, The Addams Family and Back to the 80s. Pupils can get involved from September 24.
- Families can purchase tickets via Parent Pay, proceeds help to support the Music department replace vital equipment

Trips

- In academic year 24/25 students studying GCSE and A-level Music will have the opportunity to attend a trip to see a touring musical theatre production at the Theatre Royal and A-level students invited to attend a concert at the Glasshouse.

Additional Information

- [Music education: information for parents and young people - GOV.UK](#)
- [Policies — Gateshead & South Tyneside Music Hub](#)