

# Music development plan summary: Hartismere School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Laura Scott
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Donna Buttle
Name of local music hub	Suffolk Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Wharf Music Education (Norwich)

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.

- Students in years 7-9 receive 100 minutes of music a fortnight. Year 7 students also receive a 50 minute choir lesson once a fortnight.
- Additionally, there is a Q group in years 8 and 9, which means that some of those students who demonstrate a particular aptitude for music receive a further 100-minute lesson a fortnight.
- In year 7, students study a broad curriculum, developing keyboard, guitar, ukulele and singing skills, and exploring listening and composing activities, supported by theory (including reading sheet music). The year 8 and 9 programmes of study increasingly allow students to focus their performing skills on either keyboard or guitar / ukulele, in order to advance their skills more rapidly. There is also continued emphasis on listening and composing skills, supported by theory. Students who play other instruments outside the classroom are often able to bring them in for use in lesson time.

- In key stage 4, students studying music receive the equivalent of 2 hours and 5 minutes of music a week.
- Across key stage 5, students studying music receive the equivalent of 4 hours and 10 minutes of music a week, plus additional timetabled study and practice time.
- From the start of year 10, students specialise on a particular instrument of their choice (or voice). All students are encouraged to continue to develop keyboard skills (useful in aiding an understanding of harmony, as well as composing).
- Skills are mapped progressively across key stages in our programmes of study.
- **Information about our music curriculum for all year groups can be found at: <https://apps.hartismere.com/programmes/#>**
- Our music programmes of study are adapted to support the needs of all learners.
- **General information about Hartismere's support of pupils with SEND can be found at: <https://www.hartismere.com/Information/SEND-and-Learning-Support/SEND-Information-Report>**
- Students are also encouraged to take advantage of one-to-one or small group instrumental or vocal tuition (see Part B of this summary).
- Students can study for GCSE Music (Eduqas) in years 10 and 11, and A level Music (Eduqas) in years 12 and 13.
- Our music curriculum is informed by:
  - The National Curriculum Programmes of Study for KS3 Music
  - The specifications for Eduqas GCSE and A level Music
  - The Ofsted Research Review for Music (2021)
  - The Model Music Curriculum: Key Stages 1-3 (2021)

## 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.

- Students are encouraged to take advantage of one-to-one or small group instrumental or vocal tuition with our team of 11 visiting teachers. Our teachers are a mixture of Suffolk Music Hub, Wharf Music Education (Norwich) and private staff. As of September 2024, over 200 students (19% of the student body) were taking instrumental or vocal lessons in school.
- Instrumental / vocal lessons are heavily subsidised for all, and currently cost £6 per 20-minute lesson. Some students receive free lessons, or lessons at reduced cost (see the the **Charging and Remissions policy** at

<https://www.hartismere.com/HX9P813SMH103YGM2X.pdf/Policy%20No%201%20Charging%20and%20Remissions%20Nov%202021-Nov%202022>).

- Lessons are offered in: piano, flute, saxophone, clarinet, trumpet / cornet, tenor horn, baritone, trombone, euphonium, tuba, violin, cello, classical guitar, rock / pop guitar, drum kit and singing.
- Students can hire some instruments from school, and others are available from the Suffolk Music Hub (both at low cost).
- Students can take instrumental / vocal graded music examinations. Some students reach Grade VIII: the highest of the standard music grades.
- We offer a timetable of extra-curricular musical activities which varies from term to term but typically includes: Concert Band, Junior Band, Senior Choir (years 9-13 plus staff), Junior Choir (years 7-8), Brass Band, String Group, Flute Choir, djembe drumming, acoustic guitar club, singing and band rehearsals for our annual school musical (years 7-13), and support sessions for GCSE and A level composers.
- Extra-curricular rehearsals take place at lunchtime, after school, and during morning registration. Some school production rehearsals also take place during weekends.
- Students are invited to join the Concert Band when they reach an appropriate standard (Grade III+). Other ensembles are open to all those in the appropriate year groups. All are free of charge.
- Many students use available music classrooms and practice rooms for self-directed individual and group practice at break and lunch times, as well as 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.

- We organise a range of annual concerts and shows which students can perform in or watch, including:
  - Three Music Evenings in October, featuring all school ensembles, as well as performances from individual students and bands across all year groups.
  - A Carol Concert in December, featuring all school ensembles, as well as performances from some of our senior musicians.
  - An annual school musical in March, in collaboration with the drama and dance departments, and involving a student band. Last year's school production was Sister Act and involved 155 students from all year groups.
  - A Summer Arts Evening in July, in collaboration with the drama and dance departments, and featuring students from all year groups.

- Other annual performance opportunities include:
  - Performance of the Last Post / Reveille to mark Remembrance Day.
  - Celebration at Snape Maltings (last year's performance involved Concert Band and a year 12 jazz ensemble).
  - Key Stage 3 soloists at the Key Stage 3 Celebrations and performances of items from the school production at the Key Stage 4 Awards Evening.
  - Student performances at the Year 6 Transition Evening and Year 5 Open Afternoons.
  - Brass ensemble performance of the National Anthem at the Sports Days.
- We also arrange musical workshops, which vary from year to year. Last year's workshops included:
  - A west African drumming day, led by Wooden Roots and involving key stage 3 students who attend the djembe drumming club plus A level musicians.
  - A songwriting / music industry taster day, led by Industry Education Music and open to year 8 and 9 students.
- All students benefit from an annual opportunity to watch a live musical, organised by the drama department.
- Preliminary investigations are taking place into a possible European performing arts tour for Summer 2025.
- Students represent the school in county-wide ensembles run by the Suffolk Music Hub, eg. this year there are 4 students in the Suffolk Youth Orchestra, 4 in the Suffolk Youth Wind Band, and one in the Suffolk Young Strings.
- Three students are members of the highly prestigious Aldeburgh Young Musicians scheme at Snape Maltings.
- It is free for students to participate in in-school performance opportunities. There is generally a charge made for workshops and out-of-school activities. Some students receive financial support (see the the **Charging and Remissions policy** in Part B of this summary).

## In the future

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

Over the course of the 2024-25 academic year, we plan to improve provision further through:

- Providing written reports detailing the progress made in all instrumental and vocal lessons (these reports are currently provided by staff from Suffolk Music Hub and Wharf Music Education (Norwich), but not by private staff).

- Continuing to build a singing culture, through seeking opportunities (eg. concerts or workshops) for students to witness excellent practice, and establishing mentorship systems involving sixth form singers.
- Continuing to build the numbers of students learning brass and woodwind instruments. Numbers are already buoyant but a number of exceptional brass players in particular have left for university in recent years. The continued success of our senior instrumental ensemble, Concert Band, is dependent upon such players.

## Further information

Suffolk Music Hub: <https://suffolkcountymusicservice.co.uk/>

Wharf Music Education: <https://wharfmusic.com/>

Wooden Roots: <https://www.woodenroots.com/>

Industry Education Music: <https://ie-music.co.uk/>