



## **Music development plan summary: Swanshurst School**

### **Overview**

<b>Detail</b>	<b>Information</b>
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	October 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mrs L Shaw
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs Y Staunton
Name of local music hub	N/A
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Services for Education (Music Service)

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**

At Swanshurst, Year 7 students receive a 75-minute music lesson every other week. The curriculum is designed to build on their primary school knowledge of music, utilising our Apple iMac music technology suite (primarily for composition) and our keyboard classroom (for performance-based lessons). Students rotate between the two rooms.

We begin the academic year focusing on either Electronic Dance Music (EDM) or expanding instrumental knowledge through our keyboard scheme. Later, students explore film music and rhythm-based performance opportunities. By the end of the year, students will have learned music theory, keyboard skills, and how to use Logic Pro X for film music composition.

In Year 8, students have one 75-minute lesson each week. The curriculum continues to build on Year 7 concepts. Students begin by creating film music, studying composers such as John Williams and Pachelbel. They also explore historical periods of music, including the Blues, Beethoven, and World music genres such as African drumming and Samba.

Throughout Key Stage 3, students engage in appraisal activities aligned with the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021), developing their ability to listen critically and appraise music accurately.

Swanshurst has a 3-year Key Stage 4 programme, with options chosen in Year 9. Students who select music as a GCSE study the Edexcel Music GCSE course. Prior to this, students complete an extension lesson focused on songwriting, music industry knowledge, and classroom performances.

## **Part B: Music tuition and extracurricular music.**

Our extracurricular music programme offers a wide range of opportunities for students to progress musically. Weekly clubs include flute group, orchestra, choir, ukulele, music technology, and keyboard clubs. These are open to all year groups.

Additionally, one-to-one or paired instrumental lessons are provided by Services for Education (Birmingham Music Service) during the school day. These lessons are funded by the school for Year 7 students and for those who choose music as a GCSE subject. For Year 8 students who are Pupil Premium (PP), lessons continue to be funded. Non-PP students are charged £30 per term (approximately £3 per lesson).

Students have access to dedicated practice rooms for instrumental lessons or after-school practice.

## **Part C: Musical experiences**

Swanshurst organises an annual Key Stage 3 trip to Symphony Hall, where students experience live performances by the Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Key Stage 4 students have previously attended productions such as *Wicked* in the West End, helping them gain contextual knowledge of their set works.

We hold annual winter and summer concerts, where students showcase their instrumental skills and ensemble performances. These events highlight the hard work of both our instrumental students and music ensembles.

Outside of school, students participate in performances through the music service, including Youth Proms, ensemble concerts, and specialised events such as guitar days

and flute ensemble performances at venues such as Birmingham Conservatoire, Symphony Hall, the MAC, and Aston University.

## In the future

We aim to increase the number of students learning musical instruments, especially those trying a new instrument in Year 7. We also encourage more student involvement in extracurricular activities. In line with the national curriculum, singing will be incorporated into all schemes of work.

## Further information

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.