

Music development plan summary: Honiton Community College

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	March 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	David Turner
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	David Turner
Name of local music hub	Devon Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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

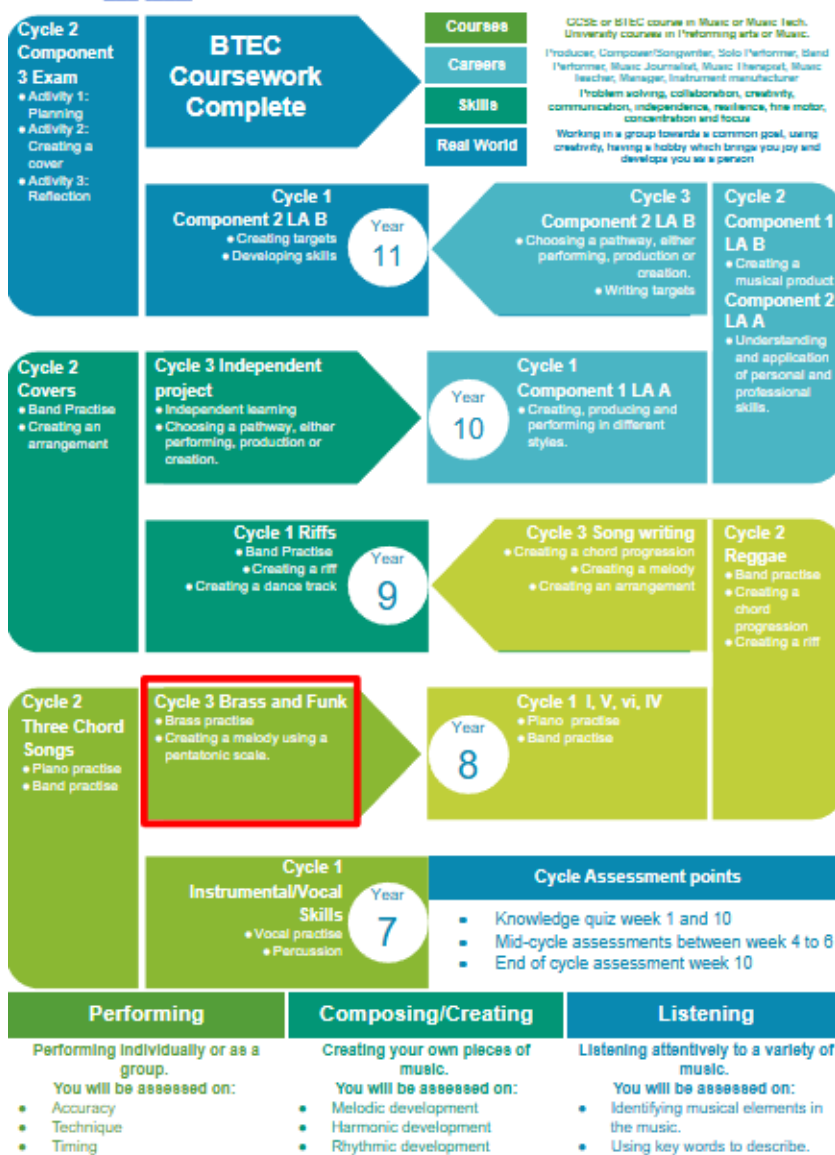
This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

Curriculum

The Music Curriculum at Honiton Community College has moved from a shared curriculum model with Drama under the subject Performing Arts in the Autumn Term 2024 to a weekly one-hour Music lesson each week since the start of the Spring Term 2025. This has enabled the school to fulfil one of the key aims of the National Plan for Music Education by providing at least one hour of timetabled music lessons for Key Stage 3.

Currently, Music lessons follow the curriculum model of a partner school in the trust as follows:

5 year Learning Journey: Music



The Music Curriculum is currently being revised for September 2025 by the Head of CreATE and Music Teacher and will draw upon key aspects of the DFE's Model Music Curriculum and other sources.

There is currently a developing Key Stage 4 provision for music with Music being offered for September 2025 through the OCR specification in which 20 students have opted to take the subject in the current Year 9. In addition, there will also be students in Year 10 taking GCSE Music.

The core musical skills being developed through the existing curriculum model are

- Performing
- Composing

- Listening
- Singing

Each student at Key Stage 3 follows a booklet which support the Music curriculum in three cycles across the academic year.

Within these booklets, students engage in knowledge retrieval tasks and 'Do Now' tasks through listening to music each lesson.

Students also develop their performance and composition skills through set topics within the curriculum and are given music notation to help form performances or musical ideas for composition .

Students use a range of instruments including voice, keyboards, guitar, bass guitar, xylophones, glockenspiels, ukulele and have regular opportunities for whole class ensemble performances and small group performances through the cycle topics.

Students also are given access to computers through the departments 20 iMacs. Students use BandLab for Education but also can have access to GarageBand and Sibelius. The College also has access to Charanga.

The College also offer specialist music interventions for students struggling to engage in school, including teaching them how to play the drum kit and teaching them basic guitar.

Assessment and Feedback

Feedback is given to all students' mid cycle on their development of performance and composition skills.

Feedback is given on Listening skills each lesson through the 'Do Now' task.

Students are taught music notation in line with the Model Music Curriculum for Key Stage 3 recommendations and are checked for understanding of notation using Show me Boards.

There is an assessment week at the end of each cycle where students are assessed on their performance and composition skills based on the topic they have completed.

Partnerships

The Music Department has increased its partnership work since January 2025 through the following actions.

Devon Music Hub – the Head of CreATE/Music Teacher is in regular communication with the Devon Music Hub coordinator for East Devon and the following actions have been agreed:

- The College will be applying to become a Music Centre in April 2025. If successful, the school will start in September 2025 and provide instrumental music lessons for all youngsters in the Honiton Learning community
- The College has applied to become a Lead School for Music and is awaiting an outcome. The College has used the Devon Music Hub Self Evaluation Tool and has evaluated provision as 'Gold' in March 2025.
- The College will be hosting coaches from the Devon Youth Choir on the 3rd April 2025 to support the developing of singing in the school.
- The College will be hosting the Future Musician project through the Devon Music Hub on the 27th June 2025. This will give opportunity for students at the school and partner primary schools in the learning community to be involved, producing a performance at the end of the day.
- The College is linking with the Honiton Town Band to support the Cycle 3 Year 7 project of Brass and Funk, aimed at increasing take up of brass instruments at the College. Members of the Band have visited the school to demonstrate brass instruments.
- The College has successfully applied for MIG funding through the Devon Music Hub to support further development of musical opportunities at the college.
- The College is organising a workshop for the Taiko Drumming group to be delivered by UK Taiko Specialist during the Summer Term 2025.
- The College Music Lead works in collaboration with the Trust Music Leads to develop music provision across Trust schools.

Qualifications

Currently, the College is introducing Key Stage 4 provision for Music in September 2025.

Several students have gained instrumental Grades through peripatetic music lessons during this academic year (2024 to 2025).

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.

Music Tuition

The College is proud of its rapidly expanding instrumental lesson provision. Currently, peripatetic music lessons take place for voice, drum kit, guitar and piano/keyboard.

Since January 2025 when Music has been taught one hour per week, instrument tuition has increased by 16 students.

The Head of CreATE and Music Teacher is currently developing a strategy to increase instrument tuition for string, brass and woodwind instruments.

The Policy for Instrumental lessons has been rewritten in March 2025.

Enrichment provision for music

The College now has a vibrant music enrichment offer including:

- House Band
- Singing Group
- Guitar Group
- Song Writing Group
- Japanese Taiko Drumming Ensemble
- Balalaika Ensemble

The Head of CreATE/Music Teacher is also a Russian Folk Music specialist and there is scope to introduce an ensemble making it a rarer and unique musical opportunity. He is also trained in Japanese Taiko Drumming.

The College has 3 practice rooms and a Recording Studio which are used most break and lunchtimes by students through a booking system.

The College offers a termly performance to all music students.

Instrument offer, charging and remissions information

The College supports instrumental tuition through subsidising lesson costs on an individual basis for students eligible for Free School Meals by up to 20%. Instrument hire through the Devon Music Hub is also subsidised for students eligible for Free School Meals.

The College is also supported by the Devon Music Hub by applying for the Bursary Scheme to support the cost of instrumental lessons.

Children in Care are also eligible for free music tuition lessons and instrument hire in conjunction with the Devon Virtual School and Devon Music Hub.

The College Instrument Tuition Policy has been re-written in March 2025 by the Head of CreATE, designed to give the widest opportunity with support from partners to help students access music tuition, including how to loan instruments through the Devon Music Hub.

If successful with the application for a Music Centre, there will be further opportunity to widen the opportunity to learn and access an instrument across the Honiton Learning Community, coordinated by the College from September 2025.

Opportunities to apply for instrumental lessons are regularly included in the Principal Post and Newsletters home to parents. The College has made it as straight forward as possible for parents/carers to sign up for lessons. Through the following link:



<https://forms.office.com/e/n8AJsdJSyb>

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.

Musical Experiences and Performances

The College has increased rapidly its opportunities for music experiences. It staged a Carol Service for Key Stage 3 in December 2024, giving all students at Key Stage 3 the opportunity to sing carols and Christmas songs, accompanied by the student House Band.

The College plans to introduce music more regularly to assemblies, thereby increasing exposure to performances.

The College provides a concert each term to showcase and exhibit student performances both through the College ensembles and from performances prepared through the peripatetic lessons.

There are plans to give an opportunity for students to attend external performances and concerts.

As the College ensembles develop, opportunity will be given to take part in the National Festival of Music for Youth and County events organised through the Devon Music Hub such as the Battle of the Bands and performance at the Devon County Show.

The College is organising several workshops with external providers during the Spring and Summer Term 2025, including Devon Youth Choir coaches working with our singers, a visit by the UK's Taiko Drumming specialist and through the Future Musicians Project. The College is also in discussion with East Devon Natural

Landscapes to develop a joint project around celebrating local landscapes through music and art in September 2025.

In the future

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

Future planning and improvements to Music provision at Honiton Community College

- **Timetabled curriculum of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1-3**

Since January 2025, all students at Key Stage 3 receive an hour a week of timetabled music tuition. This is planned to continue.

- **Access to lessons across a range of instruments and voice**

In January 2025, the new curriculum gives opportunity to sing and use a range of instruments on a regular basis as part of the planned curriculum model. The curriculum will be largely remodelled for September 2025.

- **A school choir and/or vocal ensemble**

A singing group was introduced in January 2025 and there is a planned workshop for all singers on the 3rd April 2025 to promote the development of singing and the singing group in school delivered by coaches of the Devon Youth Choir. Students will also be given opportunity to join the Ted Wragg Choir, our Trust choir.

- **A school ensemble/band/group**

A House Band was formed in September 2024 and has already performed to all students at Key Stage 3. Students are encouraged to join the band, and music is arranged so students of all abilities can take part.

- **Space for rehearsals and individual practice**

Honiton Community College has high quality music facilities which include two teaching classrooms (one with a suite of 20 iMacs), 3 Practice Rooms, a Recording Studio and further music editing space. Students also have access to a large rehearsal space called the Black Box and a Drama Hall.

- **A termly school performance**

The College put on at least one performance a term, the next being on Thursday 3rd April which will be the Spring Term Music Exhibition Concert. There are at least two performances planned for the Summer Term 2025 including the Future Musicians performance and Summer Showcase.

- **Opportunities to enjoy a live music performance at least once a year**

The College plans to bring live performances in for all students to experience at least once a year.

Other future developments

- Application to become a Music Centre from September 2025
- Complete revision of the Music Curriculum, including introduction of the OCR specification GCSE in September 2025
- Offering GCSE Music from Summer Term 2025 to current Year 10's who originally opted to take the subject in the Year 9 Options process
- Application to become a Lead School for Music – made in March 2025
- Revise provision for music technology to include Chromebooks for greater access to using IT
- Expand instrumental tuition to include more students learning string, woodwind and brass instruments through a clear strategy
- Continue to strengthen links with the Trust Schools, local Primary Schools and local community
- Increase performances in assemblies
- Widen opportunities for visiting performances and students going to live performances and concerts out of school
- Strength the cross curricular linkage between subjects within CreATE