

# Music development plan summary: The Priory School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	24/25
Date this summary was published	September 1 <sup>st</sup> 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 1 <sup>st</sup> 2025
Name of the school music lead	Joe Austin
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Nick Bucknall
Name of local music hub	Shropshire Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Music Heroes

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.

The Music curriculum is published on the school website, and can be found at <https://priory.tpstrust.co.uk/life-at-school/curriculum/music/>

At key stage 3, learners have opportunities across all years to sing and play instruments in lessons such as guitars, drums, ukuleles, keyboards and percussion across a wide range of genres and contexts. This is a mixture of individual, small ensemble and whole class performance. There is equal emphasis throughout key stage 3 on performance and composition in order to prepare students for the practical element of GCSE Music. Key musical terminology is developed throughout key stage 3 to prepare students for the written element of GCSE Music. At key stage 4 students follow the Eduqas GCSE Music specification.

<https://www.eduqas.co.uk/media/by5boopf/eduqas-gcse-music-spec-from-2016-d.pdf>

Throughout music lessons students with SEND are supported on a case by case basis dependant of their needs. Generally, students with SEND sit close to the front to enable the teacher to easier check understanding and prioritise in giving help whilst practising. Resources are also adapted to remove barriers between understanding music on a page and producing a high quality performance. Practice rooms are always prioritised for SEND students to enable a quieter space for them to work on performances and compositions, and specialised / adapted instruments are bought or made in cases where physical limitations will prevent a student from performing to a high standard on an instrument.

At key stage 3 students are given an hour a week to curriculum music and at key stage 4 they are given 2 hours. Generally, the time at key stage 4 is split one hour a week for exam preparation (appraising) and one hour a week for NEA preparation (performing and composing) however this will change throughout the year leading up to key events such as NEA deadlines, mocks and the written exam.

## **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.

Instrumental lessons are delivered by both Shropshire Music Service and Music Heroes. Both organisations allow students to take graded music examinations. Currently the instrumental lessons offered by Shropshire Music Service are strings, brass, piano & keyboard, drum kit and guitar and piano & keyboard from Music Heroes, however these are all subject to change based on demand and availability. To sign up for lessons please liaise directly with Shropshire Music Service and Music Heroes. Pupil Premium students' instrumental lessons are funded by the school. For more information on Pupil Premium music lessons, please contact Mr Austin or Lizzie Robey.

The extra curricular music clubs / ensembles we provide are orchestra, choir, rock school, house music and rehearsals for our yearly school productions. All of these are free to join for all, and the only prerequisites are you must already play an orchestral instrument to join orchestra and lead roles for the school production are chose by audition, however the production ensemble is open to all. Please contact Mr Austin for more information.

Use of practice rooms is encouraged, and students often form their own bands using these rooms at break, lunch and after school. This must be approved by Mr Austin in advance.

## 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.

Throughout the school year we have many musical experiences planned.

### **Autumn Term:**

**House Music** – a concert in the final week of the Autumn Term containing the House Music competition where each House produces a choir. Rehearsals for House Music start in early September and all students are encouraged to attend. Please speak to your Head of House for more information.

### **Spring Term:**

**School Production** – every year we put on a school production. This year our production is 'Grease'. Please speak to Miss Jones or Mr Austin for more information.

**Pro** – our yearly talent show which contains performances of all types. Competitors are chosen via auditions for the competition. Information of when these auditions will be held and how to sign up will be released nearer the time. Pro also hosts our House Dance competition, where each House produces a dance troupe who compete for the House Dance title in the Pro show. For more information on House Dance please speak to your Head of House.

### **Summer Term**

**318Fest** – 318Fest is a new event for this year, where students from each of the schools in the 3-18 Education Trust will perform at an evening festival at The Priory School. More information on how to perform at 318Fest will be released by Mr Austin closer to the time.

## In the future

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

- Developing and building 318Fest as a cross trust event which adds to our already busy calendar of musical experiences is the main focus for developing music at The Priory School this year (2024/2025)
- For next year (2025/2026) the focus is going to be adding opportunities for students to attend concerts outside of school.