

Music development plan summary:

Westbury Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	10.11.2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	30.09.2026
Name of the school music lead	Redford Lee
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Gareth Westray
Name of local music hub	Nottingham Music Hub

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.



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.

Classes in the Preparation Phase (years 3-8) access weekly music lessons for a term (on a cycle), these are delivered by Nottingham Music Hub and ensure that all pupils perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. Pupils are encouraged to create and compose music on their own and with others, including playing instruments, using technology appropriately and developing their understanding of how music is created, produced and communicated.

Pupils in the Preparation Phase have regular opportunities to engage in creative projects delivered in partnership with the Freedom Foundation. This collaboration promotes pupils' physical and mental wellbeing through music, dance, and mentoring, while developing confidence, self-expression, and teamwork. Projects culminate in either a reflection or learning, or a live performance, where pupils showcase their learning to an audience of parents/carers, celebrating creativity and personal growth.

Pupils in years 3-7 also access music lessons through the Cornerstones curriculum. These lessons are taught within themed topics (usually with a history or geography focus), are directly linked to national curriculum objectives and are assessed using the Curriculum Maestro. Pupils study traditional music from different cultures through singing, listening, describing, creating graphic scores, experimenting with sounds, planning and performing music from different styles and genres.

Pupils in year 9 access weekly music lessons, whereby pupils build on their previous knowledge and skills through performing, composing and listening. Pupils access a wide range of musical context and styles in broadening their skills, knowledge and understanding, including learning to recognise and manipulate the musical elements.

In year 10 and 11, pupils can choose to study Music Technology. This is a diverse Key Stage 4 option which allows learners to create original music of any genre whilst mastering the nuances of instrumentation, song structure, composition, recording and mixing tracks, and blending musical styles effectively. At Westbury Academy, Music Technology provides pupils with opportunities to achieve Rock School London graded qualifications in Music Production. Working with Education and Bass, nationally renowned experts in the field, pupils will be able to complete online exams in Music Production and achieve globally recognised qualifications. Accessible, but powerful, apps and online learning platforms develop learners' practical skills relevant to the music industry whilst achieving grade 6 and above earns UCAS for further study.

Throughout our music curriculum, pupils are encouraged to express their emotional responses and preferences towards genres and musical styles.

Extra-Curricular Music

This is about opportunities we provide 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.

Pupils access a range of instruments as part of their music lessons and experiences at Westbury Academy. One-to-one musical instrument tuition is explored on an individualised basis, with local and national organisations contacted surrounding this tuition.

Pupils across Westbury Academy are encouraged to develop their wider interest in music through Westbury's Challenge Curriculum, whereby pupils are able to tap into staff's own skills and knowledge within music through engaging lesson delivery using a range of musical instruments and online applications.

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.

Pupils have the opportunity to perform and discuss their learnt knowledge and skills in music with parents, carers, staff and guests from across the Academy Trust during:

- Tutor Time
- Westbury's Challenge Curriculum
- Westbury Goes Green
- Visits to see local pantomime performances
- Freedom Foundation partnership performances
- Orchestral performances, such as the Robin Hood Youth Orchestra in Partnership with Nottingham Music Hub

Further Information

Useful links for Pupils, Parents, Carers and Staff:

Music Education Hubs: [Music Education Hubs | Arts Council England](#)

The Department for Education Guide: [guide for parents and young people](#)

Nottingham Music Hub: [Home | Nottingham Music Hub](#)

Minute of Listening: [Home - Minute of Listening](#)

MusiQuest 2025: [MusiQuest 2025 | Nottingham Music Hub](#)

Arts Council Posters:

