

Music development plan summary: Spring Common Academy

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	8/10/24
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Sara Collard
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Shari Welsford
Name of local music hub	Cambridgeshire 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.

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 has been built around practical and sensory music making experiences. This is to ensure that there is a focus on developing a love of music and on the development of children as musicians. The curriculum is designed to build pupils' musical knowledge and develop competency and confidence as musicians. Each topic exposes the students to significant musicians and musical works, with the intention of exposing pupils to a wide range of music that will inspire them. By connecting this to world around them and enhance lifelong learning.

The curriculum is built to support non-specialist teachers in developing their own subject knowledge and delivering excellence in music education in KS1 and 2 and as tool to develop communication. A specialist teacher delivers music to some of the KS2 classes and all KS3 classes. Music lessons mostly take place in a dedicated music room. Using our upper and lower school hall for larger performances. Selected students study music during KS4 via the Arts Award, Discover, Explore and Bronze level.

Topics include singing, listening and appraising, composing and improvising and instrumental performance. These are built cumulatively throughout the curriculum enabling pupils to develop their engagement with, and knowledge of, music over time,

place, occasion and emotional literacy. This includes a focus on experience a range of instruments; learning to play instruments confidently. The teaching of music aims to build a strong musical culture in school, and gives opportunities for pupils to thrive.

The aim is to give pupils the language needed to explore their own musicality; this is deliberately planned so that pupils revisit and embed this knowledge over time. Clear structures and learning routines underpin music, allowing pupils to direct their cognitive attention to the curriculum. This strong focus on thinking skills provides the framework for pupils to deepen and broaden their knowledge of music and enables confidence.

Reasonable adjustments for pupils with SEND

All pupils at Spring Common have SEND and to ensure access in terms of materials and full participation in lessons, as part of the planning and preparation teachers consider how specific activities or pedagogy may need to be adjusted. There is the use of ear defenders in music lessons for learners who struggle with sound volume. The use of coloured music notation rather than traditional music as a more accessible way for students to learn to read music; coloured stickers on instruments such as; keyboards, ukuleles and tuned percussion enable colour matching additionally enables access.

Pupils with language and communication difficulties (including those with ASD) may have additional visual prompts to help them understand what is expected of them. Some pupils may have individual task boards to enable them to follow a series of steps. Makaton is used across the school to support communication and we have a Communication & Interaction Lead who support this work, as well as regular training and a number of Makaton Champions. For pupils who have a hearing impairment, teachers will think carefully about how this impacts their ability to hear and produce sounds and will best to adapt the music lessons to ensure these pupils can be successful. For pupils who have a visual impairment, this may impact their ability to read and follow musical notation. The use of Communication in Print/enlarged symbols/text may be suitable. Teachers carefully consider how they can adapt these lessons, possibly including the use of technology, to ensure that these pupils can access the same high-quality curriculum experience or use support staff. For some pupils who have specific challenges around processing, some of the lessons may require adaptation to ensure that all pupils can participate fully in the lesson. This may mean reducing the number of instructions or steps in a task, introducing the use of a reader for lessons with a reading element (including lyrics), or any other adaptations specific to the pupils in the class.

Cambridgeshire Music Hub

As a school we work closely with Cambridgeshire Music Hub, providing opportunities to sing and play instruments.

Music lessons are practically based. Students have a music lesson timetabled weekly as part of our creativity subject. Singing plays an important role across Spring Common Academy in a variety of lessons at EYS, KS1, KS2 Staff use song to transition

students and is an inherent part of circle time/routines daily in the lower school. KS3 access whole class singing and signing with a specialist teacher. We provide opportunities for students to perform as a choir in and out of school at landmark events. Students will learn through performance and composition. Most commonly they will explore the elements of music and develop skills on keyboards, ukuleles, tuned and untuned percussion as a whole class. The school has a set of African and Samba drums, and these are explored as a topic in KS2 and KS3 respectively.

Cambridgeshire Music is our local music hub providing performance opportunities and music therapy for our students.

Our students may go on to work towards the Arts Award Explore or Bronze certificate at KS4.

Part B: Co-curricular music

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, choirs and ensembles

Private Music Lessons

These are available through Cambridgeshire Music upon request.

Singing assemblies provide the opportunity for our lower school students to sing together.

Music performances - each class group has the opportunity termly to perform to an audience to demonstrate the skills that they have developed. These performances vary in musical styles, including singing and performing with a tuned instrument.

Part C: Musical experiences

Other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts:

Current performance opportunities planned for this academic year.

22nd of November performing at the Christmas Light Switch On in Huntingdon; a choir with students from KS3 & 4.

A Service of Lessons and Carols for Schools – King’s College Chapel - 10th December 2024 for one of our KS4 groups.

Working with links with The Junction in Cambridge a group of Complex Needs students will be taking part in a sensory performance at Christmas.

We have our 4 Christmas performances w/b the 9th of December including; The Nativity at Trinity Church.

Throughout the year we invite other members of the school to come and listen to class work.

Our annual Arts Festival in June, this year on the theme of ‘History’. will give staff and students a chance to explore music throughout the ages as share some of our work with parents and carers.

In the future

In school music teaching

As a school we will to continue to develop the expertise of non-specialist staff through by providing continued professional development; providing opportunities for members of staff to develop their musical talents. This will then provide consistency and confidence to deliver quality music lessons and expertise within the school community. Ensuring that support staff are confident to deliver more sensory music sessions to small groups of children where is may not be suitable for them to take part in whole class musical activities.

Developing our extra curricular offer.

Offering students a chance to take part in music clubs during their lunch break to further develop in their musical interest.

To add signposting to individual music tuition via Cambridgeshire Music.

Musical Performances.

Working with local arts organisation to find more opportunities for our student in lower school to access and experience live performance.

To develop a plan to offer a performance during the Easter term.

Further information

Our local music hub website <https://www.cambridgeshiremusic.org.uk/>

For our pupils living nearer Peterborough <https://peterboroughmusicclub.org.uk/>

Performance venue - The Junction <https://www.junction.co.uk/whats-on/>

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.