



STALHAM HIGH SCHOOL

Music Development Plan Summary

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	Sept 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mr M. Rider
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr P. Norris
Name of local music hub	Norfolk & Suffolk 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

Curriculum Intent

The Music curriculum aims to ensure that all pupils, regardless of their prior experience, develop skills and confidence across the three core musical strands of performing, composing, and listening and appraising. Through classroom teaching, pupils experience a broad range of musical activities using voice, instruments, and, where possible music technology, enabling them to engage with music creatively and practically.

The curriculum is designed to build strong musical literacy, including understanding of notation, rhythmic patterns, pitch, structure, dynamics, scales and other key elements, so that pupils can read, interpret and create music independently. Lessons also promote collaboration, creativity and performance skills, whilst providing opportunities for pupils to perform individually or in groups, compose original work, and reflect critically on music from a range of cultures and historical periods.

By building appreciation of diverse genres - including folk, classical, blues, world music, contemporary and popular styles; the curriculum supports pupils in developing both cultural awareness and personal enjoyment of music.

Curriculum Implementation

Key Stage 3 (Years 7–9)

Music is taught as part of the core curriculum at Key Stage 3, with pupils receiving two 60-minute lessons a fortnight throughout Years 7-9. The curriculum is fully sequenced to ensure clear progression in musical skills, knowledge and understanding.

Year 7 <https://www.stalhamhigh.org.uk/seecmsfile/?id=9363>

The Year 7 curriculum provides strong foundations in musical knowledge and practical skills. Pupils develop understanding of basic notation, rhythm, and pitch; learn introductory keyboard skills; explore folk and world music; and engage in ensemble and band-based performance work. Singing and whole-class performance are embedded throughout the year to support confidence and musical fluency.

Year 8 <https://www.stalhamhigh.org.uk/seecmsfile/?id=9213>

In Year 8, pupils broaden their musical experience through practical engagement with a wider range of genres, including popular music, blues, and film/media music. They begin to apply more advanced musical concepts and develop greater independence in performance and composition tasks. Music technology is introduced or extended, enabling pupils to explore sequencing, simple recording, and digital composition where resources allow.

Year 9 <https://www.stalhamhigh.org.uk/seecmsfile/?id=9387>

Year 9 consolidates and deepens pupils' musical understanding in preparation for potential KS4 study. Pupils undertake more complex ensemble work, develop their compositional skills through longer or more open-ended projects, and strengthen their listening and appraising abilities. There is increased emphasis on personal creativity, independent rehearsal, and stylistic awareness across a range of musical traditions.

Key Stage 4

From September 2025, pupils can study BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice at Key Stage 4. This qualification provides a vocational pathway focused on real-world musical skills, including performance, composition, rehearsal and the development of professional practice.

Our music department is situated on the ground floor, with easy access to our main teaching room and three practice rooms. We work closely with our SEND team and County SEN Services to ensure Music is accessible to all pupils.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Intent

Enrichment opportunities aim to extend learning beyond the classroom, support pupils' musical development and foster engagement, confidence and enjoyment.

Offerings

All offerings are open to all students.

Vocal groups – including school performances and local competitions.

Ensemble and band programmes – open rehearsal time for solo and group performers.

1:1 Instrumental lessons – via peripatetic teachers (singing, guitar, drums and piano). PP students receive 50% funding, whilst all students studying BTEC Music Practice receive full funding for one instrument.

Performance events – showcases, celebrations assemblies and community events.

Impact

Participation in extracurricular music:

Enhances practical skills and creativity

Builds confidence and teamwork

Provides recognition through performances and awards

Supports progression into KS5.

Pupils can continue to make progress in music outside of lesson time through booking our practice rooms and lunchtime to rehearse.

Pupils who are interested in peripatetic lessons, wish book the music practice rooms or perform in the showcases should speak to Mr Rider.

We work in partnership with the Norfolk Music Hub and where appropriate perform at events they organise. We also use the music hub for support and guidance where required in relation to the music curriculum.

Part C: Musical experiences

Year 7 and Year 8 once a week, take part in singing assemblies. During the assemblies, students develop practical singing techniques, understand the benefits of singing and are exposed to a variety of styles and genres. Each year, Year 7 & 8 take part in the Christmas carol concert at the church.

All students are given the opportunity to perform at the celebration assemblies, showcases and outside of school as part of the Norfolk Music Hub. This year, students will perform outside The Forum in December.

Personal development days have a focus on the performing arts, including watching West End productions and tours of film and music venues.

Students can experience music as an audience in lessons, celebration assemblies and the showcases.

There are also opportunities for students to get involved in workshops through the Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub, such as beatboxing, singing etc.

In the future

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

We are currently planning to reintroduce a whole school musical.

Develop partnerships with Music Hub and external music organisations – for external tuition, masterclasses, workshops, performance opportunities, progression pathways

Following the introduction of BTEC at KS4, carry out a **review of the KS3 curriculum** ensuring it prepares students for the BTEC.

Further information (optional)

[Norfolk & Suffolk Music Hub](#)

[The Department for Education publishes a guide](#) on how parents and young people can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.