

# Music development plan summary: Stanground Academy

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	05 March 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	01 September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Kate Baxter
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Rebecca Baines
Name of local music hub	Peterborough 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.

Stanground Academy provides an extensive, diverse, and progressive music curriculum for **all** students regardless of individual starting points.

The curriculum intent at Stanground is:

*'Teaching music musically' is at the forefront of the curriculum vision in the Music department at Stanground Academy. Through devising a diverse, progressive, and ambitious curriculum model, students are challenged, inspired, and supported in both their musical and personal development. Opportunities are embedded for students to be able to continually hone and develop the practical disciplines of performing and composing, whilst maintaining the academic rigour of the subject through listening, appraising, theory, and context. Over time, this will ensure that all students are suitably equipped to access music at each key stage and beyond, regardless of individual starting points. This, in addition to an expanding offer of musical opportunities and experiences beyond the classroom, enables*

*all students to graduate from the Academy with an appreciation for music; a creative, versatile, and influential subject that is an integral part of everyday life.*

Music is a highly valued subject at Stanground Academy, both in the curriculum and in enrichment activities. Informed by the Model Music Curriculum (2021), the National Curriculum (Music Programmes of Study: Key Stage 3), and the National Plan for Music Education, the music curriculum is written and developed to meet the needs and experiences of the school cohort. Through ongoing reflection and refinement of the school's music offer, Stanground Academy has been recognised for its music provision and achievements in the local area; following a nomination by Peterborough Music Hub, the school is now a Music Mark school.

Stanground Academy meets the following guidance in relation to the National Plan for Music Education for Curriculum Music:

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

All Key Stage 3 students (Year 7-9) receive one hour of timetabled curriculum music each week of the school year. A progressive and ambitious curriculum is in place, which prepares students for studying Music at Key Stage 4. There is an enthusiasm for music and their music lessons among students, with all students able to make excellent progress regardless of individual starting points.

Students explore a broad range of instruments during lesson time through whole-class ensemble teaching in all year groups. This includes opportunities to sing and learning to play instruments including keyboard/piano, ukulele, bucket drumming, and world music instruments. Music technology is also introduced into the music curriculum from Year 8, exploring concepts such as using a DAW, sequencing, and creating music using technology.

Students explore a broad and balanced curriculum with the three components of performing, composing, and appraising at its core. With an emphasis on the elements of music and skill development, students explore a range of musical styles and genres, including music from the Western Classical Tradition, Film Music, 20<sup>th</sup> Century Music, Popular Music, and Music Technology.

**Music Qualifications**

At Stanground Academy, students have the opportunity to study Music at both GCSE and Post-16 level.

At GCSE, students follow the EDUQAS GCSE Music course. This course splits into three components: Performing (30%), Composing (30%), and Appraising (40%).

At post-16, students currently follow the RSL Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma for Music Practitioners (Performance Pathway) course. Core modules include Rehearsal Skills & Live Music Performance and Planning a Career in Music. Optional modules include disciplines such as Auditioning for Music, Improving Instrumental Performance, and Composition Styles.

Students receiving instrumental/vocal tuition in school are encouraged to work towards Graded Music Exams with their peripatetic tutors.

## 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.

Stanground Academy meets the following guidance in relation to the National Plan for Music Education for Co-Curricular Music:

### ***Students have access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice.***

Music tuition is available to all students across the Academy, with lessons currently available in: Piano, Voice, Guitar, Drum Kit, and Strings. All students are encouraged to access instrumental/vocal tuition, and assistance with funding can be requested by parents/carers for whom the cost presents a barrier to accessing musical learning. Pupil Premium students receive fully funded lessons.

### ***A school choir and/or vocal ensemble.***

The school choir is open to all students across the academy. Rehearsing weekly, the choir explore a range of musical styles and part-singing, preparing for performances across the school year.

Smaller vocal ensembles have also been introduced to our vocal offer, including a sixth form vocal group.

There is no cost for attending choir rehearsals.

### ***A school ensemble band/group.***

Ensembles currently include String Ensemble, Drumming Group. These groups meet for weekly rehearsals, preparing repertoire for performances throughout the school year. Students also perform alongside staff members in the band for the annual school

production. In addition, students are also encouraged to create their own bands and ensembles.

There is no cost for attending ensemble rehearsals.

### ***Space for rehearsals and individual practice.***

The music department is well-equipped with rehearsal spaces, resources, and equipment. Four dedicated practice rooms allow space for individual and ensemble rehearsals to take place. Students are encouraged to book these rooms, with many students opting to rehearse before school, during breaks, and after school. Students are also able to access music classrooms for keyboard practice and music technology work during the lunch break.

Rehearsal spaces are also used during curriculum time to facilitate ensemble work in the music lessons.

### ***A termly school performance.***

Students have the opportunity to take part in regular school performances. The Winter and Summer showcases, organised by the Creative Faculty, provide opportunities for each ensemble to perform, along with a number of solo and band performances. The annual musical presents an additional performance opportunity for both vocalists and instrumentalists. Musical performances are also included at wider school events, such as Open Evening, Transition Evening, and in assemblies.

### ***Opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year.***

Opportunities to experience and enjoy live musical performances are organised for students throughout the school year. Recently, performances have included musical theatre productions at local theatres and concerts by professional orchestras/ensembles.

### **Music Tuition**

Music tuition is provided by peripatetic tutors during school hours. Wherever possible, weekly lessons are scheduled on a rotational timetable to avoid missing the same curriculum lesson each week. The contract for music tuition is directly between parents/carers and the peripatetic tutor.

Tuition is currently available in Piano, Voice, Guitar (Electric, Acoustic, Bass), Drum Kit, and Strings.

Students receiving instrumental/vocal tuition in school are also encouraged to work towards Graded Music Exams with their peripatetic tutors.

Instruments are available in school for students to use during lessons and for in-school practice. Students receiving music tuition in-school can also loan an instrument from Peterborough Music Hub. This service is free of charge.

Assistance with funding can be requested by parents/carers for whom the cost presents a barrier to accessing musical learning. Pupil Premium students receive fully funded lessons. A range of lesson types are also available, including 30-minute individual, 20-minute individual, and paired/small group lessons.

Students are also encouraged to attend events organised by the Peterborough Music Hub, including the Peterborough Centre for Young Musicians. The academy also regularly participates in school events organised by the music hub.

## 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 events and opportunities are regularly organised throughout the academic year.

In school, musical opportunities include performing in Winter and Summer Showcases, performing in the annual school production, performing at school events (for example, Open Evening, Carnival Week). Such performances include students from all year groups. Students not involved in the event itself are regularly invited to attend as audience members to experience live performances (for example, Assemblies, Carnival Week, Reward Shows).

Working with Peterborough Music Hub, students regularly participate in workshops and projects with professional musicians. This has recently included *Banding Together*, the *Rap Project*, and workshops with Conductive Music. Further afield, students have had the opportunity to work with Britten Sinfonia in a pilot *New Sounds* project exploring both composition and performance.

External visits to experience musical performances have included concerts by Royal Air Force Music Services, performances by Britten Sinfonia, and musical theatre productions.

Wherever possible, costs for these events are kept to a minimum, with most being free of charge for students to participate. Where a cost is involved, subsidies are available for PP students.

## In the future

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

Stanground Academy Music Department regularly reviews, evaluates, and adapts the music provision within the school, both in the curriculum and in enrichment activities.

Priorities for further development include:

- Expand the music tuition offer: more students learning an instrument and a wider range of instruments available (for example, brass and woodwind).
- Provide more opportunities for students to showcase their musical talents.
- Create more opportunities for students to both experience live music performance and work with music professionals.