

# Music development plan summary: Sir Christopher Hatton Academy

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Christopher Jeffs
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Pete Atkinson
Name of local music hub	Northamptonshire and Rutland Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Keith Learmouth

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 those pupils can achieve.

Sir Christopher Hatton Academy provides a broad and varied Music Curriculum across Key Stage 3, 4 and 5.

Music at Key Stage 3 is on a rotation within the Performing Arts Faculty, with the students receiving 20 hours of tuition across two rotation blocks within Years 7 and 8 and a further 10 hours of tuition in Year 9. The topics covered within these rotation units are shown below;

Year 7	Building Block in Music (Rhythm, Pitch, Structure, Texture and Timbre)	Music In Our World (Ground Bass, Theme and Variation, Gamelan Music)
Year 8	Moving On In Music (Jazz & Blues, Music for Film)	Bass and Beyond (Video Game Music, Hip Hop bass lines, Reggae)
Year 9	Music Technology and Music Today (Sequenced Composition, Effects and Mixing in DAW, Musical Futures)	

Assessment at Key Stage 3 is through performance, composition and listening tasks, both in the classroom and using the VLE Focus On Sound.

Students use computers running Studio One DAW software and USB MIDI controllers to develop keyboard skills but also have the opportunity to use ukulele, guitar, drums, bass guitar and voice in lessons throughout Key Stage 3.

Music at Key Stage 4 is studied as either the Eduqas GCSE Music (9-1) or Pearson Edexcel BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice, depending upon the performance, composition and technology strengths of the cohort. Lessons are currently delivered across two lessons per week, starting in Year 9.

The Eduqas GCSE Music qualification requires students to develop their knowledge of four musical Areas of Study, focusing on two set works in depth, to enable them to apply their knowledge and musicianship to a variety of musical pieces and settings. The course also requires students to perform as an ensemble and as a soloist, and to compose two compositions. The appraising examination takes place in the summer of Year 11.

The Pearson Edexcel BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice requires students to analyse, develop and use musical skills as a performer, composer or music technician to create projects to exam board set briefs. Students develop their skills and experience through workshops, lessons, visiting speakers and professionals in the broader music industry.

At Key Stage 5 we currently deliver the Eduqas A-Level in Music, with a focus on the Performance route. This course is delivered across five lessons per week between two experienced music teachers, each delivering to their areas of strength. The course requires students to perform (35%), compose two pieces of music (25%) and complete a 2-hour 15-minute examination in the summer of Year 13.

Within the music department we follow the Hatton Academies Trust SEND policy for inclusion, which can be found on the [Trust website here](#). Within curriculum lessons, all

students have access to resources and activities that can be tailored to their individual needs.

## 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.

As part of the co-curricular music opportunities within the academy we work closely with the Northamptonshire and Rutland Music Education Hub, specifically with Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust, to deliver quality, inclusive and enjoyable music experiences for all students. Additionally, we employ directly a highly experienced and qualified guitar teacher.

Our current instrumental and vocal tuition opportunities include;

**Upper Strings** – Violin and Viola

**Lower Strings** – Cello and Double Bass

**Woodwind** – Flute, Clarinet, Oboe, Saxophone

**Brass** – Trumpet/Cornet, French Horn, Tenor Horn, Euphonium/Baritone, Trombone, Tuba

**Piano and Keyboard**

**Voice/ Singing**

**Guitar** – Including electric, classical, acoustic and bass (when requested)

Instrumental lessons are provided as a 20-minute individual or paired lesson, but also as 15-minute individual or paired lessons for those just beginning their musical journey as an instrumentalist. The current tuition fees for instrumental lessons is shown below;

20 minute Individual Tuition (NMPAT) - £183.33 per term (11 weeks)

20 minute Individual Guitar Tuition (Learmouth) - £165 per term (10 weeks)

15 minute Individual Tuition (NMPAT) - £137.50 per term (11 weeks)

20 minute Shared Tuition (NMPAT) - £91.66 per term (11 weeks)

20 minute Shared Guitar Tuition (Learmouth) - £82.50 per term (10 weeks)

15 minute Shared Tuition (NMPAT) - £68.75 per term (11 weeks)

Alongside our instrumental tuition provision, a range of ensembles are available across the academy;

	Lunchtime	After School
Monday	String Group (PA2) Guitar Group (PA3)	Hatton Musical Theatre rehearsals (PA1 and PA3)
Tuesday	Keyboard Club (PA3) Hatton Musical Theatre Vocal Ensemble (PA1)	Rock & Pop Academy (Live Room and PA2)
Wednesday	Woodwind Group (PA3)	
Thursday	Brass Group (PA3)	Wind Band (PA3)
Friday		Jazz Band (PA3)

All of the ensembles and sessions listed above are open to all students, and with no cost associated.

We currently have 33 students taking instrumental and vocal lessons each week, financial support is available towards the cost of tuition for PP and (P)LAC students, and also for families where financial situation is difficult. This is organised on a case-by-case basis.

As part of our ongoing partnership with the Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust, the Music Department, along with other rooms across the academy, is used to host the Wellingborough Music and Arts Centre (WMAC) on a Saturday morning. This centre sees nearly 300 adults and students from the local area engaged in a large variety of ensemble, music, drama and dance activities.

## 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 experiences across the academy are broad and open to all students.

Alongside our curriculum experiences students taking instrumental lessons, either through the academy or privately, are invited to join the co-curricular ensemble that rehearse weekly and perform as part of the academy's calendared performances.

These concerts include, but are not limited to;

- Hatton Academies Trust Christmas Performance
- Spring Recital evening
- Summer Arts Festival
- National Festival of Music for Youth Regional events
- Lunchtime recitals and performances (scheduled with individual students and peripatetic teachers)
- Linked performances with Wellingborough Music and Arts Centre, through our regional Music Hub.
- Visits to primary schools to perform to younger students

Alongside our performance opportunities, students are invited to join the Wellingborough Music and Arts Centre, and have the opportunity to attend these performance events.

Key Stage 4 and 5 students will be invited to participate in a trip to experience live music making to either The Royal & Derngate Theatre Northampton or Leicester Grammar School, and tickets to the NMPAT concert seasons will be advertised to parents/carers to ensure performance opportunities are available to all.

## In the future

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

We are currently delivering 20 lessons of music over the academic year for the first two years of Key Stage 3, with a further 10 lessons in Year 9. The academy Senior Leaders are reviewing the curriculum to increase the provision of music lesson and music making opportunities moving forward.

We currently have at least one performance opportunity per term available to students, with additional lunchtime and evening recitals when viable.

Currently there is construction of a further Performing Arts teaching space, which will be available to use for rehearsals and co-curricular activities. This will complement the existing teaching and rehearsal spaces available to students.

The Key Stage 4 curriculum, whether BTEC or GCSE, is determined by the strengths and abilities of the cohort taking the option in Year 8, and from experience and assessment in Year 9 for those students who have opted to study music to a Level 2 qualification.

## Further information (optional)

Within our co-curricular provision we work closely with the Northamptonshire and Rutland Music Hud, and particularly with the Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust (NMPAT). Further information about [NMPAT can be found here](#)

As part of this partnership we have been recognised with being awarded [Music Mark](#)