

Music Development Plan Summary: Colne Valley High School

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	Claire Keates
Name of local music hub	Musica Kirklees

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our students 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 students and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our students’ 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 students can achieve.

Our Music curriculum can be found on the website: <https://thecvhs.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/Music-2024-Curriculum-Plan.pdf>

At CVHS, students study music for one hour per week (two hours per fortnight) in Key Stage 3.

Students who choose music as an option (BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice) will study music for five hours per fortnight.

Our curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum (MMC).

Students have the opportunity to learn to play and develop on keyboard, ukulele (leading to guitar and bass guitar) and using music technology throughout Year 7-9. In Year 7-9 students work individually and in pairs to develop as keyboard players. Whole-class ukulele tuition takes place in Year 7. Students experience whole-class drumming in Year 7 and students work in small groups to combine their keyboard, ukulele (and guitar) percussion (drumming) skills as part of a band.

Students begin to use simple DAW software (Bandlab) to create EDM (electronic dance music) in Year 8, and develop in increasing depth during Year 9.

CVHS works closely with Musica Kirklees (local music hub) on co-curricular music. CVHS is a base for a weekly music centre run by Musica.

Students have the opportunity to study Music in Year 10 and Year 11 through the BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice.

Part B: Co-curricular music

This is about opportunities for students to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how students can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

Students can join one of a number of ensembles. These include musical theatre group, rock school and soul band. We rehearse and perform a whole school musical on a bi-annual basis.

There is also a DJ club, and an orchestra which rehearses at the end of each term, ready for performances.

Students can borrow instruments from school for practice (this is free) and there are practice rooms available after school for private practice and small group rehearsal.

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.

There is a musical experience every term. We hold Christmas and Summer concerts that showcase extra-curricular groups, solo and small ensemble performances. Every year we also host Expressive Artist of the Year in which students rehearse and audition of their own accord. Finalists perform in front of a panel of external judges.

We also work with local performers to expose classical music to students. This takes place on an annual basis.

Bi-annually we offer a trip to London to experience music in the capitol. Students attend workshops by professionals and visit theatre and live music venues. Visiting further afield is planned for coming years.

In the future

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

Opportunities for whole class singing need to increase and performances to take place outside of CVHS.

We hope to be able to expand our co-curricular offer by increasing the amount of instrumental teaching time available, as well as increasing the opportunities for students to experience live performance both as listeners and performers.