Music development plan summary:
Wyedean School & Sixth Form

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Heidi Hodkinson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Gloucestershire Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Chepstow Community Music Centre

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.

Music is all around us and one of the central building blocks of any culture. At Wyedean, we want every student to know the power of music: to experience music 'from the inside' as performers and creators, and to understand how music fits into the world at large. Through the shared knowledge of music, crucial cultural capital is encouraged as learners develop a deeper appreciation of how music works, its power and place in everyday life, and how music fits into the world.

At Wyedean we encourage learners to listen critically in order to expand their musical horizons, and to gain a deeper understanding of how music is constructed and the impact it can have. We provide learners the opportunity for collaboration, both within the curriculum and within our extra-curricular provision. This is gained through the shared experience of performing, composing and listening to the music of others.

Our curriculum allows learners to study a broad range of musical genres and to build basic musical skills that will enable learners to play and compose music acoustically and through music technology. It aims to equip students to pursue further musical skills, either at GCSE, A level and beyond, or as part of their own personal enjoyment and discovery.

Music is taught at KS3 for an hour per week. At KS4, Music can be studied at GCSE level, and singing within the Eduqas Vocational Performing Arts Course. At KS5, Music can be studied at A level and singing within our BTEC Performing Arts course.

The music curriculum has been designed to be accessible to all students, which includes disabled students and those with special educational needs.

Further information about the music curriculum can be found on our school website:

https://www.wyedean.gloucs.sch.uk/Curriculum/Music/

Individual Instrumental lessons are available to students through the Chepstow Community Music Centre (https://chepstowcommunitymusiccentre.weebly.com/) which is based within the school grounds. Specialist tuition across a range of instruments is provided by peripatetic staff throughout the week both within the school day and in the early evening. Students are given the opportunity to study for a range of graded music exams (ABRSM, Trinity and Rock School) with Rock School Exams held at the Centre each term.

Part B: Extra-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.

Chepstow Community Music Centre offers a range of instrumental lessons to students at Wyedean:

Woodwind, Brass, Strings, Percussion, Drum Kit, Piano, Jazz Piano, Keyboard, Ukulele, Electric and Acoustic Guitar, Bass Guitar and Singing.

20 minute lessons are £11 and 30 minutes are £16.50. A scholarship fund is also available to those from low-income families.

The Music Department offers a range of extra-curricular groups that are available to students during lunchtimes and after school:

Orchestra, Swing Band, Band Club, Mixed Choir, Lads Choir. Gospel Choir and a Music Technology club.

Students are also given the opportunity to be part of an annual school production, with Musical Theatre rehearsals running throughout the first half of each year.

Chepstow Community Music centre and the Gloucestershire Music Hub also offer a wide range of vocal and instrumental ensembles outside of the school day, that Wyedean students are invited to be part of.

https://chepstowcommunitymusiccentre.weebly.com/

https://www.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk/

https://www.makemusicgloucestershire.org.uk/

Students are also able to rehearse or practice individually at the Music Centre during lunchtimes or, if a member of sixth form, during the school day.

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.

Throughout the school year there a wide variety of concerts and performances that students are invited to be involved with:

Autumn Term

Community Performances

Tintern Torchlight Carol Service

Christmas Concert

Community Performance eg Local Carol Singing

Spring Term

School Production (Musical Theatre)

Community Performance eg Care Home Visits

Summer Term

Battle of the Bands

Devauden Music Festival

Summer Concert

Community Performances eg Primary School Visits

We also aim to give students the opportunity to enjoy live music once a year through arranged trips to professional concerts. In recent years this has involved performances by the London Concert Orchestra and the Welsh National Opera. In addition to this, we actively seek to invite touring musicians/ ensembles to offer performances within our school calendar (in 2023- 24 this included the Carducci String Quartet).

In the future

- In addition to our current provision, we are looking to enhance our offer of music technology within the school. Music technology is an integral part of our curriculum at KS3 and for composing at GCSE and A level. Moving forward we are seeking to offer Music Technology at KS5 in the first instance (2025 – 2026) with a desire to see this increase further at KS4 at a future date.