

Music development plan summary: Derby Moor Spencer Academy

Dear reader,

The document below outlines the Music development plan for Derby Moor Spencer Academy for the academic year 2025-2026. This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across curricular and extra-curricular music. This information is to help students and parents and carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our students music education.

I hope you enjoy reading this music development plan, and should you have any further questions, please feel free to email me at jmcnulty@derbymoorspencer.org.uk

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	January 2026 – then termly
Name of the school music lead	Mr McNulty
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr Wragg
Name of local music hub	Music Learning Collective Derby (MLC)
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Derbyshire School Music Hub

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.

At Derby Moor Spencer Academy we deliver high-quality provision in curricular music across KS3 and KS4.

KS3 Curriculum:

Our KS3 curriculum has been revised to include key features of the national plan for music education. Our school music curriculum is also informed by the model music curriculum (March 2021), which is a piece of non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 3.

Our KS3 school timetabled curriculum includes:

Year 7 – 1 hour of music taught over a fortnightly timetable

Year 8 – Two 8-10 week blocks of music with 2 hours of music taught over a fortnightly timetable (block rotation with Drama)

Year 9 (if chosen as a soft option)– 2 hours of music taught over a fortnightly timetable

The KS3 curriculum is scaffolded so that prior learning is built upon lesson by lesson but also topic by topic, so students not only broaden their skill sets by trying new instruments but also deepen their musical learning and abilities by developing specific skills. Specific topics have been included at KS3 that are built upon at KS4 level, for example Film Music and Song Writing and Composition are both studied at KS4 level, which are introduced at KS3. The Y9 Battle of the Bands Project links to ensemble performance and develops skills required for KS4 study.

KS4 curriculum:

At KS4 we deliver the BTEC Technical Award in Music Practice (which is graded Distinction Star to Pass 1 – equivalent to GCSE grade 1 to 8).

<https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/btec-tec-awards/music-practice/2022/specification-and-sample-assessments/btec-tech-award-music-practice-2022-spec.pdf>

This qualification will build upon the KS3 curriculum and further develop students knowledge and understanding by researching and learning about key styles and composers that have contributed to the development of popular music. Students will perform various pieces of music within these genres and complete a set task where they reproduce a piece of music in a new style.

Our school timetable curriculum includes 6 hours of KS4 music over a fortnightly

timetable.

Music Curriculum Overview:

Our Music Curriculum maps can be found [here](#)

Part B: Extra-curricular music / Music Tuition

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 a school we have a strong relationship with the Music Learning Collective (MLC). MLC support our curriculum through our peripatetic provision, offering high quality instrumental lessons to students across KS3-KS5.

We are proud that we give access to peripatetic lessons across a range of instruments and currently have teachers available for Drum, Guitar, Bass or Ukulele and Piano lessons. We have the ability to teach a wide variety of instruments that our students desire via this company, when it is requested.

Further information on peripatetic lessons can be found via the link below:

[Derby Moor Spencer Academy - Music Learning Collective](#)

Students who have Pupil Premium status (in receipt of free school meals) are often entitled to subsidised music tuition. Please speak your music teacher in the first instance.

Music Clubs:

Our music club offer is a great way for students to further develop their musicianship beyond the curriculum offer. All of our school clubs are free of charge.

Out school ensembles include:

School band that rehearses on a regular basis.

School choir that rehearses on a Tuesday after school.

School percussion club that rehearses throughout the term.

Our School Show this year is Matilda.

Information about Matilda - rehearsals

Rehearsals for Matilda will start after auditions have taken place. This will all be within the first term, with a view to visiting the theatre to watch a production of Matilda before the show in March.

Practice spaces are opened regularly for students to further improve their practical work that begins in the classroom to give room for further improvement. This regular availability supports individual and small group rehearsal on any instrument and for voice. The practice spaces also allow for the nurture of independently formed bands.

Instrument Loans:

Students are able to apply for instrument loans from the Music Department and should discuss this with their music teacher directly.

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 year we have a variety of performances and opportunities for students to participate.

Current events and opportunities can be found below:

Autumn Term:

Year 6 Open Evening – Choir/Band performances

Christmas Concert

Spring Term:

Whole School Show - Matilda Spring Term 26 (Auditions begin during Autumn Term)

Summer Term:

KS3/4 Expressive Arts Showcase Event

Derby Moor's Got Talent (Biannually - next show in 26/27)

In the future

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

We continually build on and develop our music plan each academic year. We will continue to maintain our high-quality music provision, for example maintaining the amount of time students are able to access timetabled music lessons. We may introduce the teaching of new instruments, in the future and will continue with our frequent performances.

In subsequent years there will be further performance opportunities as we will continue to work with MLC as well as participation at events at county level. We will also look to continue previous performance opportunities through the Derby Cultural Education Partnership and Sinfonia Viva (Energy Project).

The curriculum is tweaked as necessary, to ensure teaching practice and materials are as up to date and relevant to our community as possible.

Extra-curricular experiences will continue to include annual or bi-annual school production alongside the ever popular Derby Moor's Got Talent.

Further information

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