

Music development plan summary: ECKINGTON SCHOOL

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	25-26
Date this summary was published	JULY 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	JULY 2026
Name of the school music lead	JONATHAN BELLFIELD
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	HELENA PARTRIDGE/ EMMA PICKARD
Name of local music hub	DERBY & DERBYSHIRE MUSIC PARTNERSHIP
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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

MUSIC CURRICULUM AT ECKINGTON SCHOOL

Time per week is allocated for curriculum music for each key stage:

- Ks3 1 1hr lesson a week
- Ks4 5 lessons over 2 weeks
- Ks5 None at present

The music curriculum at Eckington school is informed by some aspects the Model Music Curriculum. It is set out in relation to performance, composition and listening. This year we hope to develop the singing aspect of the curriculum further.

We have partnership with Derby & Derbyshire Music Partnership who advises the school and supports music curriculum through instrumental lessons.

KS3 MUSIC CURRICULUM:

A link to our curriculum on the website can be found here:

<https://www.eckington.chorustrust.org/courses?dep=28>

The music curriculum at Eckington School is ambitious and demonstrates a strong foundation in both the National Curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum (DfE 2021). The curriculum is designed with a seamless transition from Key Stage 3 (KS3) into a Key Stage 4 (KS4) GCSE music course.

Eckington Schools music curriculum offers a comprehensive and well-rounded approach to studying music. The curriculum aims to develop both theoretical and contextual knowledge through the strands of composing, listening, appraising, understanding music and performing.

In Year 7, students delve into various topics such as Basic Skills, where they learn fundamental music concepts and techniques. They also explore the world of music through the lens of popular television shows and movies in the "Big Music from the Small Screen" unit. Additionally, students engage with string instruments in the "Things with Strings" topic, experience ensemble playing in the "Band Lab" module, learn about different orchestral instruments, and explore the history and characteristics of marches.

Moving into Year 8, students further develop their musical skills and knowledge through topics like Basic Skills 2, where they expand on their foundational understanding. They delve into the rich heritage of baroque music and explore the expressive nature of blues and jazz. In the "Band Lab 2" unit, students continue their ensemble playing, and they also explore the unique musical world of computer game music. The curriculum culminates with a study of the innovative and energetic art form of Stomp.

By Year 9, students have developed a solid foundation in music and continue to explore and expand their musical horizons. They further refine their fundamental skills in Basic Skills 3 and delve into the captivating world of film music, discovering the creative techniques employed in composing for the silver screen. Additionally, they are introduced to the art of songwriting, allowing them to express their creativity and develop their own musical ideas.

Music qualifications and awards pupils can study and achieve at Eckington school:

- **Graded music exams** (Peripatetic teachers)- We offer graded music exam preparation with the peri teachers for all key stages. Peri teachers can work through GCSE or A Level material with the students to ensure they have the best grade in their performance section of the exam or the composition.
- **GCSE Music** (Eduqas) Level 2 - A link to our ks4 music qualifications can be found here: <https://www.eckington.chorustrust.org/courses?dep=24>

- RSL Music Practitioners (currently not available at Y12) -A link to our ks5 music curriculum can be found here:

<https://www.eckington.chorustrust.org/courses?dep=22>

Send support at Eckington school:

At Eckington school we see **Music** to be an important area for pupils with difficulties and disabilities of all kinds, **identifying previously hidden abilities** they may possess and **providing opportunities** for **ENJOYMENT** and **ACHIEVEMENT** and the **CULTIVATION OF SELF-CONFIDENCE** by **nurturing CREATIVITY** which can be missing from other areas of the curriculum.

Our primary focus in the arts is to have AMBITION for our SEND students and allow them to THRIVE in an INCLUSIVE and SAFE SPACE which is unique to other areas of the school.

The **development of the senses is central to the music curriculum**, using sight, touch, emotional response and intellect to **learn about different elements of visual, auditory and kinaesthetic language**. For **pupils with SEN at Eckington school, as with all pupils, personal experience and personal response is a starting point for any activity.**

We believe in **explicit instruction, consistency in routines and expectations, cognitive and metacognitive strategies, scaffolding, flexible grouping and using technology within a COHERANT and SEQUENCED CURRICULUM** which meets all student's needs.

Music has a rare and unique ability to bring people together; making can make a whole class, school and community feel connected to others and part of something bigger. This celebrates the inclusion of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities **Music can support emotional wellbeing**, it can be used to explore individual emotional expression and creativity. **It can be a safe medium to explore more difficult emotions and can be used to learn about self-regulation.** This can promote a level of self-awareness and therefore increase self-esteem and confidence.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Music tuition Eckington school offers outside of what is taught in lesson time:

Peripatetic music teachers in none at present

Extra-curricular clubs:

Vocal Group

Band Jam KS3 and KS4/5

Paired Piano

School Production

Practice and Rehearsal rooms at Eckington School:

We have 3 individual practice rooms for students to use individually and with Peri teachers.

We have a larger practice room for ensemble/ group performances.

Part C: Musical experiences

Musical experiences planned for the academic year 2024-25 at Eckington School:

- Christmas performance
- Summer music festival
- School production
- Christmas music trip

In the future

Our plan to incorporate the NATIONAL Plan for Music 7 features of high-quality music provision:

Within the next 2 years:

- **Access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice.**

Why: To improve option numbers at KS4/5. To offer all students a rich music experience. To offer disadvantaged students the opportunity to excel in a subject different and more accessible to them.

How: Faculty lead to discuss needs with school leaders. Funding will be needed for the following:

To invite musicians in to offer a wider opportunity through workshops based around instruments such as brass, drums, guitar. This will hopefully have a knock-on effect to more students wanting instrumental lessons.

To increase the numbers in what we currently offer and introduce, Singing and woodwind instruments.

Peris to deliver clubs in their specialism at lunchtime.

Financing/ subsidies for PP, SEND students to have instrument lessons for targeted students who would benefit. (See subsidiaries booklet given by Derby and Derbyshire Music Partnership)

- **A school choir or vocal ensemble. (school production)**

Why: To develop singing across the school and use these individuals in whole experiences such as awards evenings, y6 information evenings. To give students a wider musical experience.

How: We want to develop a school choir/ ensemble. We would include singing/ vocals in an extracurricular club by the school funding per teachers to deliver the sessions. We will have music ranging from musical theatre to pop and choral music. Choir rehearsals would need to be every week. Faculty lead needs to meet with SLT to discuss possibility of funding to employ freelance per teacher for choir club/ rehearsals.

- **A school ensemble, band, or groups.**

Why: To offer students an opportunity to develop band skills and extend their creative musical talents by performing in front of others, practicing as a group.

How: We now have a dedicated music teacher who can offer lunch. We will offer weekly rehearsals and will promote the development of the band skills club through social media, assemblies and music lessons.

- **A termly school performance.** This is planned for when we are able to employ a second music teacher with a singing specialism and one other instrument.

Further information

The Department for Education [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.

Derbyshire Music Hub [music hub](#) local plan for music education in place from September 2024: TBC

Multi-academy trust -trust-wide music development plan: TBC