

Music development plan summary: Ormiston Chadwick Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/26
Date this summary was published	6/11/2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	10/01/25
Name of the school music lead	Matthew Buckley
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Vicky Fearn
Name of local music hub	Halton and Cheshire Music Hub – (not used)
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

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 taught to all students in a weekly 1-hour lesson throughout Years 7 and 8. During Year 9, Music is taught as part of the Performing Arts carousel. Students have a weekly lesson of one of the subjects for a half term and then switch to the other subjects, before repeating the carousel. They access at least 10 lessons of Music in Year 9. At Key Stage 4 students can choose to study for a qualification in music – GCSE Music (AQA) – over 5 x 1-hour lessons per fortnight for year 10s / 4x1 hour lessons per 14 for year 11s. Any student can continue to engage with enrichment music activities / clubs after school.
- Our music curriculum is informed by the National Curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum. By the end of Key Stage 3 all students will have been taught aspects of:
 - Singing

- Keyboard
- Guitar/ Bass
- Ukulele
- Drums/percussion
- Music Production / Audio and midi recording

We offer all students the chance to learn the above and other instruments through whole class lessons and the music classroom is well equipped. We ensure our music curriculum is adapted for all learners through close liaison with our school SENCO. In addition, our school provides music wellbeing sessions for vulnerable students.

- Our curriculum allows all students, regardless of prior attainment the opportunity to progress, to gain recognised qualifications or to pursue music as a hobby and gives all students access to use industry grade equipment in our on-site recording studio and suite of computers equipped with industry standard software.

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.

Our students can engage with music beyond our timetabled lessons. We have a well-resourced and coordinated performing arts department where students at all key stages can study drama and dance or participate with those subjects through extracurricular activities.

We have a range of performing opportunities throughout the year, giving students the opportunity to act, sing, perform in the “house band” or assist with production or backstage.

Our school regular musical enrichment through the following clubs:

- Choir
- Rock band – Buddy system. This is when students from KS4 encourage KS3 students to perform with them in an informal setting. This occurs each Friday PM and is well attended. There is also a year 11 intervention session running every Monday PM.
- KS3 Keyboard Music Enrichment

Our music department also presents music at the school Christmas concert / Fair, and a summer term musical performance.

We also contribute to music performances in the community and have performed at a local care home and sister schools.

Ormiston Chadwick Academy has working partnerships across the Ormiston Trust. Allowing staff to share best practice and receive continued profession development.

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.

At OCA we aim to provide as many different musical experiences to our students, as possible. We have a variety of performing opportunities through concerts and shows, as well as Celebration Assemblies, where our young musicians can gain experience of public performing. We have external musicians attend school to deliver music workshops to KS3 students in OCAer week too, ensuring that all students have access to music activities as a means of expressing themselves and improving well-being.

We offer Music Enrichment Evenings on a Monday, Tuesday and Friday after school where students from all years come to perform together and develop their skills. There is also a vocal ensemble.

In the future

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

- Our music curriculum is annually reviewed to ensure it is the best possible for our students. We are currently looking to provide our students the opportunity to attend more external live performances and to bring in guest speakers from the music industry to further enrich our curriculum.
- I have recently attended a Trust Wide Middle leaders conference with a view to build a uniform, trust-wide music curriculum to develop a more expert-led curriculum for students, aimed at improving shared knowledge and best practice.