

# Music Development Plan 2025-2027

Kennet School



## Review

<b>Approved by</b>	Headteacher	<b>Date</b>	November 2025
<b>Last Review Date</b>	-	<b>Next Review Date</b>	November 2027

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## Our Vision

At Kennet School, music is at the heart of a vibrant, creative and ambitious learning community. We believe that music inspires curiosity, self-expression and connection, enriching not only school life but also our wider community.

Our vision is to ensure that every pupil, regardless of background or prior experience, has access to high-quality musical opportunities that:

- Nurture creativity, discipline and teamwork
- Develop confidence and self-belief
- Encourage cultural appreciation and respect
- Provide clear pathways for musical excellence and lifelong enjoyment.

## 1. Curriculum Provision

### Intent:

In line with the Model Music Curriculum, we aim for all pupils to:

- Receive a broad, balanced and ambitious music curriculum from Key Stage 3 to Key Stage 5
- Develop performing, composing, listening and appraising skills in line with the National Curriculum and exam specifications
- Experience music from a diverse range of cultures, traditions and genres
- Understand how music connects to history, technology, culture and identity.

### Implementation:

- Key Stage 3 curriculum follows a spiral model where knowledge and skills are revisited and deepened each year
- Key Stage 4 pupils can choose GCSE Music (AQA), where they focus on composition, performance, appraisal and music technology
- Key Stage 5 students can progress to A Level Music (AQA), A Level Music Technology (Edexcel) or EPQ with a music focus
- Music technology is embedded at all Key Stages through the regular use of DAW software. Each KS3 year group spends a term in the computer room exploring audio and midi. KS4 and KS5 pupils compose primarily using music technology. Pupils are offered the music technology performance alternative at both GCSE and A-Level music.
- Pupils explore music theory and notation alongside creative, practical learning.

### Impact:

Pupils develop as confident, reflective musicians, equipped with transferable skills such as collaboration, creativity, discipline and critical thinking.

## 2. Co-Curricular & Enrichment Opportunities

Music at Kennet thrives beyond the classroom.

Our enrichment offer includes:

- Choirs, chamber groups, orchestra, jazz band, soul band and rock/pop ensembles
- Instrumental and vocal tuition via Berkshire Music Trust
- At least two large-scale musical performances per term, including productions and recitals showcasing pupil talent
- Participation in local and national festivals and trust-wide events
- The annual House Music competition
- Workshops, masterclasses and cultural trips (e.g. theatre visits, university outreach, BBC Proms)
- Opportunities for student leadership with roles such as House Captains for Music and Sound & Tech Crew

These experiences help pupils to build confidence, teamwork and a lifelong love of music.

### 3. Inclusion & Access for All

Music at Kennet is for everyone. We are committed to removing barriers and promoting participation among:

- Pupils with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) and English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- Those in receipt of Pupil Premium funding
- Pupils who may not otherwise access musical learning outside school.

Our inclusion strategies include:

- Providing funded or subsidised instrumental lessons
- Ensuring accessible repertoire and differentiated resources
- Using adaptive technology and multisensory teaching methods
- Encouraging cultural diversity through repertoire and events
- Tracking participation to ensure equity of access.

### 4. Workforce Development

Our passionate and skilled music team leads by example. We invest in staff development through:

- Regular CPD with Berkshire Music Hub and exam boards
- Training in inclusive music education, music technology and assessment
- Peer observation and collaboration across Equinox Learning Trust schools
- Support for early career teachers through mentoring
- Staff wellbeing and professional growth remain central to sustaining a thriving musical culture at Kennet.

### 5. Partnerships & Collaboration

We work in partnership with:

- **Berkshire Music Trust** for instrumental teaching, performance opportunities and CPD
- **Equinox Learning Trust** to share expertise and coordinate Trust-wide music events
- **Local primaries transition projects** such as the Rising Year 7 choir and Junior Orchestra to deliver joint concerts and workshops
- **Universities and arts organisations** for enrichment and careers pathways
- **Parents and the wider community** supporting concerts, celebrating success and showcasing our pupils' talents.

These partnerships enhance the richness and reach of music at Kennet School.

### 6. Progression & Careers

We are committed to supporting pupils who wish to continue music beyond Kennet.

Our progression offer includes:

- Clear routes into Key Stage 4 & Key Stage 5 qualifications
- Careers education linking music with creative industries, technology, teaching and therapy
- Advice and mentoring for students applying to Music Colleges, Conservatoires and Universities
- Leadership opportunities through pupil-led ensembles and mentoring younger musicians.

### 7. Monitoring, Evaluation & Next Steps

**Success Indicators:**

- All pupils experience high-quality music lessons and regular performance opportunities
- Strong uptake and outcomes at GCSE and A-Level
- Increased participation across all demographics
- Positive student and parent feedback
- Staff confidence and capacity remain high

### **Next Steps (2025–2027):**

- Create further opportunities for pupils at Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 to access music technology
- Work with the Thatcham community to increase the profile of school music in the Thatcham area
- Create additional ensemble opportunities for younger pupils
- Strengthen transition links with local primaries
- Review curriculum alignment with updated exam specifications

### **Review Cycle**

This plan will be reviewed annually by the Music Lead and Senior Leadership Team and updated every two years in line with the National Plan for Music Education.

### **Contact**

For further information, please contact:

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