

# Music development plan: Whinfell School



## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	August 2026
Name of the school music lead	Neil Armstrong
Name of local music hub	Cumbria Music Hub

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

Whinfell School is proud to partner with Trinity College London and Sounds of Intent to deliver an inclusive, enjoyable and inspiring, allowing all young people to work towards an accredited award in Music, regardless of their prior ability or exposure to music education.

The Awards and Certificates in Musical Development are Trinity's colleges, fully inclusive qualifications for schools and other settings delivering the Sounds of Intent music learning programme, and are designed for those with learning difficulties, including those on the autism spectrum with advanced musicianship skills, for whom traditional examinations are a barrier. The scheme enables everyone to have their musical achievements and progress formally recognised.

Preparation for the assessments can be made during regular music sessions, with achievement and progress continually assessed by the teacher or music leader. Assessments are made using the 'E•A•X' ('emerging, achieving, excelling') summative assessment scheme

All students in KS2 and KS3 have the opportunity to study music for at least one hour per week throughout the school year, with our specialist music teacher. Students in KS3 have the opportunity to attain an Entry Level Award in Music development in order to formally recognise and celebrate their achievements.

At KS4, students who express an interest continuing studying music will be supported to do so, with the opportunity to work towards a Level 2 Certificate in Music Development.

## **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.

Students are also able to come together in ensemble at our weekly music club, as well as opportunities to perform for their peers throughout the school year.

Students have access to instruments outside of school hours, and where appropriate students are bought their own instruments by the school

We are proud to work with South Lakes Rock School, who support some of students to play alongside other young musicians and perform in their annual concerts.

For those students who are interested in music production, we work closely with local social enterprise 'Horizon Studios' who offer 1:1 tuition in music production in their custom-built studio in a nearby town. Students also have the opportunity to co-produce music with other young people during school holidays, and at the after-school club 'The Hive'.

## **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.

All students are offered the opportunity to attend musical shows and events throughout the year, both as whole school trips and to more individualised events in line with their interests.

Students are offered the opportunity to attend the 'Kendal Calling' music festival, joining in and performing in the 'Jam Tent', as well as experiencing the acts on the main stage.

## In the future

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

In the future we are hoping to build an annual timetable of events that the students can access, such as 'last night at the proms'

We also seek to continue to develop our music department resources, ensuring our young people have a broad range of instruments that they can ready access to.