

Gillotts School: Music development plan summary

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	10th October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	31 August 2026
Name of the school music lead	Charlotte Alder, Subject Leader for Performing Arts
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Ed Newbold, Deputy Headteacher
Name of local music hub	Buckinghamshire Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Oxfordshire County Music Service Henley Music School

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.

The school’s music curriculum for Years 7-9 can be found [here](#).

This curriculum is informed by the model music curriculum and allows for development of skills across the three years. Instruments learnt in lessons include keyboard and ukuleles, as well as whole class singing celebration events.

At KS4 students who opt for music study Edexcel Music GCSE. Information on the course can be found [here](#) and information on results can be found [here](#).

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.

Private Tuition is available in:

- Piano
- Guitar (acoustic and electric)
- Bass guitar
- Cello
- Voice
- Drums
- Flute

Other instruments are usually available on request.

These lessons are a combination of individual and small group teaching. Lessons are funded by parents but the school can usually support students eligible for Pupil Premium to source funding for lessons. Many of our peripatetic teachers support students through graded music exams.

The school offers many ensembles including:

- Choir
- Orchestra
- Musical Theatre
- Jazz Band
- Rock Band
- Guitar Club

These ensembles are open to all students and free to join. They take place at lunchtime and after school.

Practice rooms are available for students to use at break time and lunch time.

We also offer a Technical Theatre Club, which covers sound technology, allowing students to develop wider skills.

Weekend, after-school and holiday provision are available as follows:

[Oxfordshire Central Music School](#)

[Henley Music School](#)

Part C: Musical Events and 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.

The school has a rich musical calendar. In 2025-26:

Year 7 singing Celebration	Whole of Year 7. 180 students	Free
Year 8 Singing Celebration	Whole of Year 8. 180 students	Free
Year 9 Singing Celebration	Whole of Year 9. 200 students.	Free
Carol Service	Approx 50 students from all year groups	Free to participate and for families to attend
Showcase of GCSE work	Year 11 GCSE Music students Approx 20	Free to participate and for families to attend
Whole School Musical	Approx 100 All years	Free to participate. Ticketed to watch. Approx £7
Summer Celebration	Approx 50 Years 7-10	Free to participate. Ticketed to watch. Approx £6

In the future

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

In the future the department will continue to develop high quality resources and offer a wide range of instrumental and vocal experiences for all students.

We will look to offer opportunities to work with professionals and to experience more live music.