

Music development plan - Summary

Noel-Baker Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Nicholas Dilkes
Name of local music hub	Derbyshire Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s)	Totally Rad Music

Curriculum music

Music is taught for one hour a week at KS3, following a broad and balanced curriculum. This gives students the opportunity to play a range of instruments including the keyboard, guitar, and drums, read a range of notations, compose music, sing, and use music technology.

At KS4 students study the AQA GCSE Music course, developing their playing ability on their chosen instrument through performance, their composition skills through writing music for instruments and using music technology, and their ability to listen to and analyse music.

We have two music classrooms, each equipped with 15 keyboards, 20 guitars, electric guitar amplifiers, a PA system, a drum kit, and 15 Mac computers with music software.

Additionally, we have a recording studio with a set of microphones and studio-quality speakers, as well as four music practice rooms equipped with drum kits, keyboards, and guitars.

Co-curricular music

We work with Totally Rad Music to provide fee-paid instrument lessons in school. Currently, we have a teacher covering guitar, keyboard, and drums. Subsidies are available for students who are in receipt of pupil premium funding.

Outside of the classroom, we have a number of music groups that students can join at lunchtime and after school for free. These are weekly clubs open to all, and include a choir, music club, guitar club, and songwriting club. Practice rooms are available at lunchtimes for students to use individually or with a group to play music. We also have a school band for higher-ability musicians that performs at events throughout the school year.

In 2025, we embark on a music tour to Spain with 40 students. This trip is open to all students of all musical abilities. Throughout the academic year, there will be regular rehearsals to develop students' musical abilities and prepare a performance to be presented around the Costa Brava.

We have four practice rooms available for students to use on several days after school.

Musical experiences

We have several events planned across the academic year to give students the opportunity to perform.

In December, there will be a musical performance by the school band and choir for all students during Christmas lunch.

During the spring term, there will be a Year 7 choir competition, which involves the whole year group showcasing the progress they have made in class to each other.

We will also have a music concert to showcase students' musical progress. These events will be for parents, with a small fee.

In the summer, the students attending the music tour will perform their music for parents before heading to Spain for three performances around the Costa Brava.

Students will also perform during sports day events, leading the parade with samba drumming and a band performance during lunchtime.

There is a planned trip for GCSE students to visit Derby Cathedral to learn about and play the organ, as well as to Dubrek Studios to see a functioning recording studio and live venues. These trips were very successful last year and provided students with insights into career prospects in music.

There will be opportunities for students to attend live music performances in and around Derby.

In the future

- Well attended and successful choir
- Create a booking system for students to use practice rooms at lunch and afterschool.
- Increase the number of students taking up instrument lessons and encourage more orchestral instruments
- Trips to live music performances

Further information

Instrument lessons provided through [Totally Rad Music](#).