

**Music development plan summary:  
Clitheroe Royal Grammar School**

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	01/09/2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	10/07/2026
Name of the school music lead	Mr B Wheeler
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Ms J Renold
Name of local music hub	Lancashire Music Service
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.

At Key Stage 3, students in Years 7 and 8 receive one hour of dedicated music instruction per week for half of each academic year. During the remaining half, they follow a drama curriculum, which strategically includes musical appreciation and singing components, ensuring musical learning remains continuous. In Year 9, pupils have the option to select music as a discrete subject, receiving one hour of instruction weekly throughout the full year.

Full details of the music curriculum—including schemes of learning, assessment frameworks, progression milestones, and support for SEND learners—are published on the Clitheroe Royal Grammar School website under the 11–16 curriculum section: [CRGS Curriculum \(11–16\)](#).

The curriculum is structured in alignment with the Model Music Curriculum and the National Curriculum for Music. It offers a rich balance of practical and theoretical learning: students develop vocal technique and instrumental skills (covering keyboards, guitar and percussion), alongside foundational music theory.

Ensemble work is central to our musical provision, with whole-class projects including samba drumming and West African percussion, fostering collaboration and cultural musical literacy.

At Key Stage 4, students can opt to study **EdExcel GCSE Music**, progressing in Key Stage 5 to **EdExcel A Level Music**.

Throughout KS3 to KS5, school-supported opportunities are available for pupils to undertake graded practical and theory examinations.

## 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 school offers a broad and inclusive programme of instrumental and vocal tuition beyond the classroom. Students may take one-to-one lessons in a wide range of instruments, including:

- Piano, voice, drum kit, and guitar
- Brass: trumpet, trombone, horn, tuba, and euphonium
- Strings: violin, viola, cello, and double bass
- Woodwind: flute, clarinet, and saxophone

Lessons are provided by visiting specialist tutors and take place during the school day on a rotational timetable. For pupils eligible for pupil premium funding, the school fully subsidises the cost of tuition. For all other pupils, lessons are paid for by parents or carers.

We run a varied programme of ensembles throughout the academic year, including:

- Choir
- Orchestra
- Pop band
- Brass ensemble
- School musical production

Additional ensembles, such as string ensemble, ukulele club and keyboard club, run periodically based on student interest and staff availability.

An instrument loan scheme is in place for most common orchestral and band instruments, enabling students to participate in lessons and ensembles regardless of

financial means. Pupils are also supported to work towards music qualifications, including those offered by ABRSM, Trinity College London, and Rock School.

Students are encouraged to develop independent musicianship and have access to practice rooms during break and lunchtime.

## 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.

Our school provides a rich calendar of musical events and opportunities for students to perform, participate, and experience music beyond the classroom.

We stage four major concerts each academic year:

- A festive **Christmas Concert**
- A traditional **Carol Service**
- The annual **CRGS Music Festival**
- Either a **Spring** or **Summer Concert**, depending on the school calendar

Each year, we also collaborate with the Drama Department to produce a full-scale musical theatre production, offering opportunities for singers, instrumentalists, and backstage crew to be involved.

Students perform regularly at key school events such as Open Evenings, Awards Evening, Assemblies, and Commemoration Day, ensuring music is embedded in the wider life of the school.

We regularly welcome professional musicians into school to perform and lead workshops. In the past year, visitors have included a local swing band, a professional opera singer, and a pop vocalist, offering students insights into a variety of musical genres and careers.

We also run an annual residential trip to London for Year 11 and Year 13 students. The visit includes attending two professional West End musicals, providing a high-quality cultural experience and enriching students' understanding of performance and production.

## In the future

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

As part of our commitment to continual improvement, we are embedding greater use of music technology into the curriculum. A recent investment in 16 dedicated PCs for the music room will enable pupils to develop skills in music production, sequencing, and digital recording. This supports our aim to provide students with a modern and industry-relevant music education.

In curriculum music, we will be placing a greater emphasis on depth of learning. In Years 7 and 8, students will be encouraged to develop more secure keyboard technique and a stronger understanding of music theory, providing a firmer foundation for musical progression.

We aim to increase the number of students engaging in instrumental and vocal tuition and to support more pupils in reaching the stage where they feel confident performing at school events and concerts.

Finally, we are committed to making singing a more prominent part of school life, both within the curriculum and through wider school activities. Our goal is for singing to become a core element of the school's cultural identity.