

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	
Name of the school music lead	Andrew Carroll
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Claire Beaumont
Name of local music hub	Tees Valley Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Ken Ward Drum School

We can successfully say that we tick each of the 7 features of high-quality music provision set out by the DofE.

- ✓ timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- ✓ access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- ✓ a school choir or vocal ensemble
- ✓ a school ensemble, band or group
- ✓ space for rehearsals and individual practice
- ✓ a termly school performance
- ✓ opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

## Part A: Curriculum music

Music

“Music lessons are a good balance between practical music and theory. Music is creative, fun and inspirational. My confidence has really grown by studying music and participating the extra-curricular opportunities.”

Year 10 student.

We offer Music as an option at KS4 and in years 7, 8 & 9 students at AGS study music twice on their two week timetable. Within key stage 3, students study a wide variety of genres, styles and techniques covering three main areas of study, these are composition, performance and listening & understanding. Composition is a creative process where students will make their own songs, music & lyrics in a range of ways. Performance allows students to push themselves out of their comfort zone by building confidence by working collaboratively to produce a musical performance for their peers. Listening & understanding explores music of different genres, styles and eras where students develop an appreciation of different cultures and a deeper understanding of the theory behind the music.

Music does not only support those students who wish for a career in the music industry, it also develops key transferable and employability skills needed regardless of their chosen career path. Skills such as communication, expression, commitment, direction, teamwork, organisation, initiative, perseverance and respect are integral aspects of music lessons at AGS.

We have two music classrooms with a variety of musical instruments, as well as, practice rooms and rehearsal spaces. We also have a number of visiting music instructors who provide lessons in instruments ranging from drums to violin.

Students can also participate in a number of musical extra-curricular activities. One of these is our AGS choir, which is new for September 2021 with students from all year groups working and performing together.

How can Music support your future?

We offer Music to all students at KS3 and as an option at KS4. We encourage your continued study in this fantastic subject but we understand that choice and personal interest are important aspects of worthy study. Whether you have continued your study of Music into key stage 4 or not you will have gained access to this enriching subject and its study will have taught you to think differently and deeply. Working with professionals within Music is also something we try to achieve as often as possible which inspires music students to the highest standards in their own work and fuels their passion for the subject.

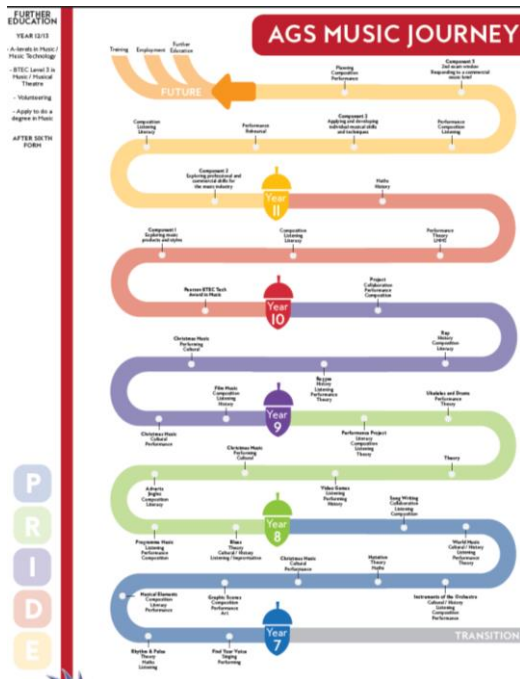
At key stage 4 students study the BTEC Technical award Level 2 in Music Practice. Students will complete the course with added confidence and a strong ability to work as part of a group also gaining excellent communication skills and a number of extensive portfolio work, which are of benefit in higher education. BTEC Tech Award is highly regarded by colleges and universities. Next step could be A-Level Music or BTEC Level 3 Music Practice. Studying music shows future employers, colleges and universities that you are creative and you can think outside the box. It also shows you are dedicated, can plan ahead and you are able to take responsibility for your learning.

Music is offered at most prestigious universities either as a single honours or a joint honours subject studied alongside other disciplines. The very fact that you have been able to study creative thinking will help your future applications be they for colleges, universities, apprenticeships or employment.

Careers that the study of Music supports include:

- Performing & Writing
- Recording
- The Record Industry
- Music Business
- Music Industry Touring
- Facility, Arena & Club management
- Film Music
- Music Journalism
- Music Education
- Teaching
- Public Relations & Advertising
- Radio & Television
- Symphony and Orchestra
- Music Health
- Music Therapy
- Music Industry and Merchandising

- Instrument work and development
- Music Publishing
- Social Media
- Band Management



Key Stage 3 – 1 hour lesson per week

Key Stage 4 – 5 hours per fortnight

SEND – All music lessons across all of the key stages are all-inclusive, including all extra – curricular activities private instrumental lessons are also available and accessible to all students no matter the need. PP funded instrumental lessons also available.

All students in KS3 have the Opportunity to learn to sing/play an instrument in lessons or privately in individual/group lessons delivered by our per staff.

Year 7. Full class singing and keyboard skills

Year 8. Guitar, Drums, Ukulele and Singing skills

Year 9. Pro Tools and Music technology skills

Along side our curriculum we also offer to our more advanced singers the opportunity to take part in London Trinity Musical Theatre Exams. So far we have ran this course up to a grade 6 level.

KS4 Currently do the BTEC TECH AWARD IN MUSIC PRACTICE qualification. We are into the 5<sup>th</sup> year of running this course with successful results.

## **Part B: Co-curricular music**

Tees Valley Music Service is our local music HUB. Within our school they offer private and group lessons in Keyboard, Guitar and Violin. In school we have a private Peri teacher which we employ delivering drum lessons in which we offer private, PP and LAC funded drum lessons.

Internal Extra Curricular. – These are the extracurricular activities currently on offer within school.

Senior Choir, Junior Choir, Band workshops, Guitar Group, Live Lounge, Musical Theatre Group, Visiting artist workshops, CPA Academy

Instruments Hire.

Instruments can be loaned at a charge through Tees Valley music service. Or pupils can access departments practice rooms during break, lunch and after school to practice using school equipment.

## **Part C: Musical experiences**

Students are offered a wealth of musical experiences at school both in watching live performances, performing in live performances and recording. These are some of the musical experiences we have at school.

Concerts (Summer, Christmas, School Musical)

Open Mic Nights (1 per term)

Live Lounge

European Choir Tours/ competition

Watching Live Concerts / workshops

Performing in front of the class.

Remembrance Concert

PP – discounted rate for PP students to attend ticketed events.

Theatre Visits

## **In the future**

We would like to continue to build on numbers in extracurricular clubs and groups. Start a larger instrumental ensemble starting in September. Continue to create a culture in lessons and around school that music is an important subject to be valued and cherished as it is an important aspect of people's lives. We hope to drive home its importance in terms of culture, inclusivity, equality and equity.

We will continue to challenge students to think hard and communicate effectively. Embrace a culture of support in terms of performance showing that it is not only ok to make mistakes but that they should make mistakes in order to progress and learn from them. We will continue to provide safe spaces for students to be creative and perform in front of the peers without judgement or negativity and promote positive learning behaviours.

We aim to continue to build relationships with further education providers in the local area and professional music venues and establishments to widen the knowledge and experiences are students are open to.

We also aim to continue trips and visits to places and venues of musical importance and allow students opportunities to participate in local and national music events.

## **Further information (optional)**

We are on a 5 year journey. Covid has slightly impacted this time frame, but we hope to go from strength to strength building one of the strongest musical departments in the area.