

Music development plan summary: The Suthers School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 / 2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mr A Case
Name of local music hub	Nottinghamshire
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Inspire Music

Part A: Curriculum music

All students at The Suthers School in years 7 to 9 receive one hour of music lessons each week which are focused on a balance of performance, composition and musical analysis. The units covered offer an experience that stretches beyond the requirements of the National Curriculum and is informed by the recommendations set out in the National Plan for Music Education and the Model Music Curriculum:

	Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
Year 7	Welcome to Music		Things With Strings
Year 8	Variations	Blues and Jazz	Computer Music Production
Year 9	Film and Descriptive Music	Pop Music Evolution	Composition and Cover Versions

By completing this three-year programme of study, students will become increasingly able to: read and interpret a range of musical notations, perform as soloists and as part of small or whole-class ensembles with increasing confidence, analyse and contextualise a broad range of pieces focusing on the elements of music, compose and improvise music with an increasing understanding of genre, style, form and tradition.

Students will develop performance and composition skills using keyboard instruments, percussion, ukulele, guitar, drum kit, voice and DAW software. Students also have the

opportunity to adapt the curriculum to perform and compose using their own instruments if they have chosen to undertake additional instrument lessons.

All lessons are carefully planned and sequenced in such a way that they have intrinsically high levels of challenge but are accessible to all students, including those with special educational needs or disabilities.

At key stage 4, students follow the Eduqas GCSE Music qualification and will receive five lessons per fortnight. By completing this qualification, students focus on four Areas of Study: Music for Ensemble, Popular Music, Musical Forms and Devices and Film Music, and will be assessed through completing two compositions, a solo performance, an ensemble performance and a final listening examination. All assessed work is completed in year 11.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Alongside students' key stage three and GCSE music studies, students may also choose to opt to undertake additional music lessons in the following instruments:

- Violin
- Viola
- Cello
- Flute
- Clarinet
- Saxophone
- Guitar
- Bass Guitar
- Piano
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Lower brass
- Voice
- Drum kit

Lessons are weekly and can be on a one-to-one or group basis for twenty or thirty minutes, all further details, including costs, subsidies and instrument loans can be found at the following link:

https://www.thesuthersschool.co.uk/page.php?d=music&p=private_music_lessons

As students make progress on their chosen instrument or voice, they have the opportunity join our String Ensemble or Suthers Collective Orchestra, which will

rehearse weekly from September 2024. Singers also have the opportunity to join our choir which rehearse in the autumn and summer terms.

Students can also opt to join our ks3 music production or practice lunchtime sessions as well as being able to access our practice rooms on request.

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.

The Suthers School offers our students the chance to perform in three major performance opportunities each year – the Christmas Concert in December, our annual musical theatre production in March and our Summer Showcase in July. These large-scale events have a growing local reputation of being high-quality productions and offer a range of opportunity for student involvement, both on and off stage.

There are also various smaller opportunities for our students to perform during the school year at events both in and out of school.

All performance events are open to every student, subject to audition.

In the future

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

As the music department develops, it is our hope and ambition to expand our provision by:

- Building the Suthers Collective Orchestra.
- Exploring further opportunities for performances in the community.
- Working with guest music practitioners to offer workshops and performances.
- Increased participation in instrument lessons and performances.