

## Music development plan summary: Co-op Academy Priesthorpe Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Lisa Budimir
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Louise Pratt
Name of local music hub	West Yorkshire Music Hub

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.

#### **Music Curriculum Statement**

The KS3 Music curriculum at Co-op Academy Priesthorpe fully encompasses the KS3 National Curriculum's aims, attainment targets and subject content. Further than this, it also draws from / references the Model Music Curriculum for Years 7 to 9. Further details of the KS3 Music Curriculum long term plans and the overall music learning journey are published on the academy website.

Music at KS3 is delivered to all students in years 7 to 9. This is further supplemented by an extensive instrumental tuition offer which also takes place throughout the core academy day.

Throughout KS3, students take part in whole class singing, whole class and small group instrumental practice (eg. keyboards, guitar, ukulele, percussion) as well as being exposed to a range of musical genres and time periods. All Schemes of Learning provide opportunities to develop pupils' listening, performing, composing and evaluative skills. The KS3 curriculum lends itself well to the three pillars suggested in the Ofsted Subject Review in 2023: technical, constructive, expressive. Key musical knowledge and expert vocabulary is taught and reinforced by retrieval tasks in every

lesson. The inter-related musical dimensions are embedded throughout each topic, referred to as Domains of Knowledge that underpins all learning from KS3 to KS4. Music technology is also a vital part of the KS3 curriculum, with pupils learning sequencing and production skills as part of their musical topics from Years 7-9. Pupils become experienced in using a DAW which prepares for further development of these skills at KS4.

At KS4, Music is delivered as an optional subject. It is allocated six lessons per fortnight. Currently the KS4 course offered is BTEC Level 1/2 Music Tech Award, which has three components (2 internal assessments, 1 external assessment). In the first component, students study 5 different styles of music covering the domains of knowledge taught at KS3. Students then create a styles portfolio with analyses of music from four styles, before creating three musical products (a performance, composition and sequencing/production project). In Component 2 students choose two practical areas to audit their skills and set their own targets to develop their musical skills. Component 3, the external unit, is a synoptic unit where pupils create a remix/interpretation of a song or piece of music into a new style, using their own creative skills to further develop their work.

Music is taught fully inclusively at both key stages, and in mixed ability groups. There is equal access to music lessons for all students regardless of demographic, SEND status, disadvantage or any other characteristic. Students with additional needs are supported to access the subject and succeed in line with their SEND pupil passports and the music curriculum has been carefully designed and 'poverty-proofed' to ensure that no students are disadvantaged as a result of any potential socio-economic challenges. Peripatetic music lessons are fully subsidised by the school for any students who are listed as Pupil Premium. The DAW used at KS3/4 is cloud-based and accessible on computers, laptops, tablets or phones, to allow for students to still be able to work at home with the technology available to them.

The academy's KS3/4 Music curriculum overview can be found via [this link](#).

### **Subject Specialists**

Music is taught by a specialist and is supported by additional peripatetic staff and tutors. Leadership of Music is formalised through a Head of Subject. Our Heads of Subject are part of a network of Music Leads across our Trust and this group is also supported by our Trust's Music SLE. There are opportunities for our music specialists to lead on regional and Trust-wide projects as well as to engage in their own CPD. There are also established links with other Subject Leaders of Music within Leeds, with termly SLDMs held through Leeds Music Hub where CPD is provided.

## 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.

In addition to core timetabled music lessons, the academy offers a range of instrumental and vocal tuition opportunities. These include :

- vocal lessons
- piano / keyboard lessons
- guitar, ukulele and bass guitar lessons
- drum lessons
- dhol lessons

Lessons are available as 1:1 or small groups (maximum 3 students) depending on the timetable and pupil numbers.

The academy works in partnership with independent tutors to provide this suite of music tuition. Students eligible for pupil premium and those who are taking music at KS4 have lessons fully subsidised for one instrument.

As well as this suite of instrumental/vocal lessons, the academy offers the following ensemble opportunities at no cost to students [delete/add as applicable] :

- rock band(s)
- choir(s)
- show band
- Priesthorpe Band

Students that do not have their own instrument are provided/loaned an instrument by the academy or our partner music providers. Students are also able to take part in bands lead by/affiliated with Leeds Artforms, many of which are free to attend or have bursaries available, e.g. a number of orchestras and instrumental ensembles at varying levels, Leeds Youth Singers, folk groups, jazz groups. From September 2025 the academy will also be involved in a project to increase exposure to professional musicians led by the Abram Wilson charity, through assemblies and workshops for KS3 students.

Students regularly undertake their own informal solo and ensemble practice by accessing the facilities in the music department before school, during social times and after school each day. This has led to a growing interest in student-led bands and vocalists emerging organically which are then further supported by music staff.

## 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.

There are many other musical experiences and encounters which take place throughout the year, and which either expose students to music or give them direct participation in music.

There are opportunities for students to perform at events such as the Christmas Concert and as part of the school production e.g. Annie in April 2025. Students from KS3-4 are able to audition for principal or chorus roles for the musical. Concerts and performances have been historically well-attended at the academy.

Another example of high quality extended musical opportunity is our Trust's Young Musician of the Year competition which included students from every academy across all year groups. This provided students with the chance to perform at a range of professional music venues, culminating in a grand final at Home Theatre in Manchester. Finalists from this competition also won tickets to a live musical concert of their choice. At Priesthorpe three acts were successful in getting through the regional semi-finals in Leeds, with two vocalists and Priesthorpe Band performing at The Wardrobe in Leeds. From this one vocalist in KS3 and our Priesthorpe Band (a mixture of KS3-4 students) performed at the Home Theatre in Manchester with our KS3 vocalist winning the award for her category. Students from our academy choir performed at the Trust recognition awards evening in front of 300 members of staff from across the Trust.

The academy runs theatre trips each year and students are able to experience live musical theatre and live performance, subsidised or fully funded by the academy. This year our trips organised through the Performing Arts department have included *Oliver!* and *Come from Away* in local Leeds theatres.

## In the future

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

Some ideas for the future include:

- A musical production
- A musical concert
- Restarting the choir/singing group
- Staff band/choir
- Co-op Young Musician of the Year
- Workshops or trips e.g. links with Leeds Conservatoire, STOMP/Ollie Turner workshop

- Continued links with Co-op Heads of Music and Leeds SLDMs
- Broadening peripatetic music provision to include strings/woodwind lessons if possible