

# Music development plan summary: Stretford High School

## Overview

Detail	Information
The academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	16/06/25
Date this summary will be reviewed	16/06/26
Name of the school music lead	L Shelmerdine
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	J Edwards as Link to PEXA (Performing and Expressive Arts)
Name of local music hub	Trafford Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

## Part A: Curriculum music

At Stretford High School, our Key Stage 3 Music curriculum offers all students the opportunity to explore a wide range of instruments and musical skills over a three-year course. Pupils gain hands-on experience in **piano, guitar, bass, drums, and ukulele, alongside vocal work including singing and rap**. They also learn to **compose and produce** music using industry-standard electronic software and equipment.

Every lesson is practical in nature, ensuring students are actively engaged in **making music each week**. Lessons are 45 minutes long and delivered once per week at KS3.

**Our music rooms are fully accessible**, and we are committed to supporting all learners, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). Lessons are differentiated where appropriate, and additional resources and adult support are used to ensure all pupils can fully participate and progress.

At Key Stage 4, students follow the **BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Music Practice**. Lessons increase in frequency and length, **with two 90-minute sessions per week**, giving students the time to deepen their technical and creative understanding.

In addition to curriculum time, **we provide free 20-minute** small group instrumental and vocal tuition with specialist tutors in **singing, guitar, and drumming**. These are offered at **no cost** to pupils or parents, ensuring equitable access to enrichment opportunities.

For more detailed information about our Music curriculum, please refer to the **curriculum booklet available on our school website**.

## 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.

At Stretford High School, we are proud to offer a wide range of co-curricular music opportunities that allow students to develop their **skills and enjoyment of music beyond the classroom**.

We provide **free 20-minute** small group instrumental and vocal tuition for students in **groups of 2–4**. These lessons support pupils in improving their **technical ability and confidence in performance, complementing their classroom learning**.

In addition, we run **two lunchtime rock band clubs each week**, where students can rehearse songs they are learning in class or develop new material collaboratively. These clubs provide an excellent platform for ensemble playing and musical experimentation.

Our co-curricular offer also includes a **school choir**, led by our music specialist, and a **popular singing club** where students choose and rehearse **songs from a range of pop and contemporary genres**. These sessions promote vocal development, confidence, and enjoyment of group performance.

All music clubs are open to **all year groups** and are advertised via form time announcements, posters around the school, and email communications. Pupils can sign up through the Arbor system or simply attend on a drop-in basis, ensuring **inclusive and flexible access**.

To support this provision, we have **two fully equipped music classrooms** and **three dedicated practice rooms** available for pupils to use during lessons and co-curricular activities. This ensures students have access to high-quality instruments, software, and rehearsal spaces.

All tuition and co-curricular music **provision is free of charge** to pupils and is funded jointly through Pupil Premium allocation and school resources. This ensures that every student, regardless of background, has the opportunity to participate and progress in music.

## Part C: Musical experiences

At Stretford High School, we are committed to providing a wide range of enriching musical experiences for all pupils throughout the academic year. These opportunities are designed to celebrate students' **progress, build confidence in performance, and foster a sense of community both within and beyond the school**.

We host **two whole-school celebration assemblies** each year, featuring live musical performances from students across all key stages. These events showcase work

developed in lessons and through our co-curricular programme, allowing the entire school community to experience and celebrate pupils' musical achievements.

Our **annual school dance show** also includes live singing opportunities, and music features prominently in our **whole-school art exhibition**, where students provide live performances throughout the evening, enhancing the creative atmosphere of the event.

The **school choir** plays a central role in school productions and performances, and we are currently expanding our offer to include more **live band and instrumental music** as part of these events. Students from all year groups are invited to take part, either as performers or as part of the production team.

We also host an **annual Performing Arts Showcase**, which features music, band performances, vocal pieces, and drama, with pupils invited to audition and perform. This popular event is open to families and the wider community. **Admission is free**, and priority seating is provided for parents and carers of participating pupils.

Through these experiences, we aim to inspire our pupils, develop their musicality, and foster a life-long appreciation of the arts.

## In the future

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

At Stretford High School, we are committed to continually improving our music provision to ensure it remains inclusive, engaging, and high-quality for all pupils.

Looking ahead, we plan to broaden the range of **musical experiences** available to students through **regular trips to live music performances**. These will expose pupils to a variety of genres and professional settings, enriching their understanding and appreciation of music beyond the classroom. We also aim to incorporate **live music into our annual school production**, allowing pupils to experience performing in a professional-style setting and strengthening the role of music across the Performing Arts.

To raise **musical aspirations**, we are planning **visits to further and higher education institutions** that offer specialist music pathways. These experiences will give students an insight into potential future study or career opportunities within the creative industries.

We are also currently in discussion with **Trafford Music Hub** to expand our instrumental offer by introducing **brass tuition**. This will enhance our musical repertoire and provide new opportunities for ensemble work. Our goal is to integrate brass instruments into our co-curricular programme from the next academic year, increasing access to a broader range of instrumental learning.