Music development plan summary: Burton Borough School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Ms Alison Ruston
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Ms Beth Wigley
Name of local music hub	Telford and Wrekin
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.

KS3 – All students in year 7-9 have a 1-hour Music lesson every week. The students follow a detailed curriculum which has been based around the Model Music 2021. The curriculum is based on 3 areas: performing, composing and listening and appraising. It allows students to explore a range of skills including singing, keyboard, ukulele, drums, and music technology.

KS4 – Students will follow the GCSE course using the OCR specification. At KS4 students have 5 lessons a fortnight, each lesson will last 1 hour. The course is weighted 60% practical coursework and 40% listening exam. Students will record 1 solo performance and 1 ensemble performance both on an instrument of their choice. They will create 1 free composition and 1

composition set to a brief by the exam board. The listening paper follows 4 areas of study.

AOS2 -The Concerto through Time

AOS3 – Rhythms of the World

AOS4 – Film Music

AOS5 – Conventions of Pop

Instrumental Qualifications – All students who have instrumental and vocal lessons can take graded exams. The current price for exams starts at around £50. We currently use the following exam boards –

Piano – ABRSM and Trinity College

Keyboard – Trinity College

Brass – ABRSM and Trinity College

Woodwind – ABRSM and Trinity College

Guitar – Rock School

Drums – Trinity College

Singing – Rock School

Part B: Co-curricular music

This is about providing 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.

Peripatetic Lessons – We are extremely proud of the range of peripatetic lessons we offer at the school. Lessons are taught by private teachers who liaise directly with parents/carers. The cost of lessons starts at £10 and are either 20 or 30 minutes long. Students who have Pupil Premium funding may be eligible to have lessons subsidised. We are currently offering an excellent opportunity for students to have free brass lessons at BBS. The department has a range of brass and woodwind instruments which can be loaned out.

We deliver lessons on the following instruments –

Piano and Keyboard

Singing – pop, musical theatre, classical repertoires

Woodwind – flute, clarinet, and saxophone

Brass – trumpet, French horn, baritone, euphonium, trombone and tuba.

Drums – drum kit

Guitar – electric guitar, acoustic guitar, bass guitar, ukulele

Strings - Violin

Here is a link to the information we give when pupils express an initial interest in tuition. Instrumental Letter

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

Students have the opportunity to be part of a number of different groups. All extra-curricular groups are free of charge. The groups offered are –

BBS Concert Band – The Concert Band is open to all students of all abilities from year 4 – year 13. Any student who has started playing either a brass, woodwind, percussion, or string instrument can join this band. Our Concert band is an excellent way for students from primary school to familiarise themselves with BBS, meet other like-minded students and perform exciting music together.

Big Band – The Big Band is open to all students from year 8 – year 13. This group explore a range of chart and jazz music. The group is for all brass, woodwind, drums, piano and guitar students. This is a new group for 2026.

BBS Choir – The choir rehearse a range of contemporary and musical theatre repertoire. The choir is open to all students of all abilities and students do not need to audition to take part. The choir enjoys taking part in a range of performances in the community throughout the year.

Year 7 Choir – This choir is only open to year 7 and takes place at a lunchtime. This group is a great way for new students to make friends, take part in a group if they are unable to stay after school and be involved in performances.

Whole School Musical – All students can audition to be part of the whole school musical which is performed early in the spring term. Auditions take place in

May, and the cast rehearse every week learning a range of acting, singing and dance skills. This year's musical is Rock of Ages

Practice Rooms – The department has 7 excellent purpose-built practice rooms available to students to book out on certain days to rehearse at lunchtime or after school in groups or individually.

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.

Students have the opportunity to take part in a number of events throughout the year. The events we have planned for the academic year 2025 -2026 are:

School Celebration Evening – An opportunity for soloists to perform from all years.

Open Evening – An opportunity for soloists to perform from all years.

Remembrance Concert – Held in the centre of Newport this is a concert for the community to come together on Remembrance Day. The concert will involve BBS band and choir, drama students, Newport Junior School and Newport Male Voice Choir. This is a free concert, and all donations are split between the church and the Royal British Legion.

Newport Christmas Light Switch On – The choir will be involved in this community event singing in the town centre.

Christmas Concert – This concert will involve all bands, choirs and a range of soloists. The concert is open to parents and the community, and tickets are priced at £5 each.

School Musical – This show will involve students from years 7 – 11 and will run over 2 nights. There will also be a primary school performance for all local primary schools. The evening shows are open to all parents and the community, and tickets are priced at £6 each.

Newport Big Sing – Each year we host the 'Newport Big Sing' which will involve all local primary schools and singers from BBS.

Easter Showcase Concert – An opportunity for all music, drama and dance students to perform in a showcase concert.

Newport Show – An opportunity for soloists and small vocal groups to perform in one of the largest outdoor events in the county.

Summer Celebration Concert – An evening of celebration, where music awards are handed out in recognition of excellence throughout the year. This concert will involve all bands, choirs, and a range of soloists.

Instrumental Roadshow at local primary schools – The concert band to visit primary schools to demonstrate the different instruments to the students.

Assembly Performances – Students are always encouraged to perform in assemblies and are an integral part to our end of term assemblies.

Professional Performances – Summer trip to watch a musical.

In the future

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

As a department we are always looking at ways we can improve the musical experience for our students. This year we are looking to add the following into our department plans:

- A trip to the theatre to watch a musical – this will be open to all students to attend.
- A trip to a concert hall to listen to a live orchestra or band.
- Introducing the platinum pathways in Performing Arts.
- Further development of the use of music technology for year 7.
- Year 7 Choir
- Expanding our Primary school offer of Instrumental lessons to ensure students coming in start at a higher level.
- A Music Scholarship scheme for entry to the school.