

Music development plan summary: St Andrew the Apostle 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	Kostas Lasithiotakis
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Kath Viala
Name of local music hub	Barnet Music Arts Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

Part A: Curriculum music

At St Andrew the Apostle, we ensure that our music curriculum is in line with the model music curriculum and is inclusive for all pupils, including those with SEND. Music is timetabled for at least 50 minutes each week for Key Stage 3, three 50 minutes lessons for Key Stage 4, and students are provided opportunities to learn to sing, compose, use music technology or play an instrument during class time. There is also whole-class ensemble teaching in Year 7.

We are partnered with BEAT (Barnet Music Arts Trust) to support curriculum music delivery, providing students with a range of opportunities to engage in whole-class ensemble teaching. For secondary school students, music qualifications including GCSE, A-levels (via centralised teaching in another institution), and graded music exams are offered, with support from specialist staff.

For our music curriculum, the progression of skills and knowledge across the Key Stage 3 years, mirroring a structured, holistic approach:

Year 7: Students explore fundamental musical elements such as rhythm, melody, harmony, and texture. They are introduced to both Western and non-Western music traditions, learning to appreciate cultural diversity. Performance focuses on basic instruments like keyboard or percussion, fostering ensemble work and solo performance, while students also begin to grasp music theory, including notation, time signatures, and key signatures. The focus is on creativity and critical listening.

Year 8: Students build on the Year 7 foundations by exploring more advanced musical structures and forms, such as 12-Bar Blues, and delve into specific genres like classical, blues, and popular music. Composition becomes a larger focus, with students experimenting with their own musical ideas using a variety of instruments and digital music software. They deepen their understanding of harmony, chord progressions, and instrumental techniques. Students also start analysing famous works of music for structure and emotional expression, developing critical listening skills.

Year 9: By Year 9, students are preparing for possible GCSE study. The curriculum is more specialized, focusing on individual instrument proficiency and advanced theory. Students are expected to perform solo and in ensembles, with more challenging pieces from various genres and periods. Composition becomes more refined, using knowledge of musical form and technology to create sophisticated pieces. Theory expands into topics like scales, chord expansions and intervals, and students explore music history, analysing the development of musical styles and the role of technology in modern music.

Throughout KS3, regular assessments focus on practical performance, composition, and theory, ensuring a well-rounded understanding of music. The curriculum integrates digital tools, encouraging students to create and manipulate sound, aligning with modern industry practices.

Part B: Co-curricular music

In addition to in-class music lessons, St Andrew the Apostle offers various co-curricular music opportunities. These include:

- One-to-one, small-group, and large-group tuition for instruments and voice
- A range of ensembles which varies according to the occasion and time of year
- Instrument loans and after-school music clubs
- A choir, and bands, including our GCSE Rock Band and Sixth Form-led Guitar Club
- Our Byzantine Choir, which performs at religious occasions, including Easter services at the church
- We ensure that all pupils, regardless of their background, have access to these opportunities, and tuition is subsidised for eligible students, including those eligible for pupil premium. Our students are encouraged to practice and rehearse individually or in groups, utilizing the dedicated music spaces at the school.
- Whole-class orchestral instrumental lessons, delivered by specialist musicians from BEAT. All Year 7 students receive a series of 10 lessons over one term, which will then lead on to a performance at the end of it. These are spread over the year for each tutor group.

Instrumental Lessons and Practice Rooms: Students can use practice rooms during the day, as long as an adult is able to supervise.

Individual lessons are currently available for the following instruments: Piano, Drums, Guitar, Bass, Cello, Trumpet, Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Violin, Viola, and Voice. To arrange lessons, please contact the office.

Financial Assistance: Students are able to access financial assistance for music lessons, instrument hire, and county-led ensembles through **Barnet Music Services**. Additionally, Barnet Music Services provides instrumental tuition and ensemble activities outside of school hours, usually on Saturdays.

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.

Throughout the academic year, St Andrew the Apostle organizes various musical events, including:

- Byzantine singing, most recently during the visit of His Eminence Archbishop Nikitas.
- School performances during Open Evening
- Christmas carol service at Trafalgar Square in support of Noah's Arc Hospice
- Christmas Show
- Byzantine choir singing lamentations during Easter church service
- Barnet schools' music festival
- St Andrew's Talent Show
- Trips to professional music performances
- Trips to watch theatrical shows and musicals
- Masterclasses by visiting artists

These events provide all pupils with the chance to either participate or attend as audience members. We also offer subsidies for these events to ensure all students, regardless of financial circumstances, can be involved.

In the future

- St Andrew the Apostle is committed to continually enriching the musical experiences of our students. Looking ahead, we plan to implement several initiatives to elevate our music education offering:
- In collaboration with other departments, we are looking into the opportunity for an overseas tour. This initiative is part of our vision to offer a holistic education, intertwining music with cultural and historical learning. The tour will provide students with the opportunity to perform in significant historical and religious venues, enhancing both their musical and academic development.
- We are also working to organize visiting masterclasses with industry professionals, providing students with firsthand exposure to expert-level guidance and techniques. These masterclasses will

cover a range of musical disciplines and instruments, offering invaluable insights from seasoned musicians.

- Furthermore, we plan to expand our program of trips to professional music performances and concerts, allowing students to experience live music at the highest levels. These trips are designed not only to inspire but also to broaden their understanding of the diverse opportunities within the musical world.
- Through these initiatives, we aim to create a dynamic, interconnected, and academically rigorous music education program that nurtures the whole student, blending artistic development with cultural, historical, and educational growth.

Further information

Barnet Music Arts Trust - <https://beatrust.org.uk>

For school based tuition please click here: <https://beatrust.org.uk/learn-to-play/school-based-tuition/>

For Beat academy based tuition please click here: <https://beatrust.org.uk/learn-to-play/beat-academy-based-tuition/>

For Barnet Schools Music Festival please click here: <https://beatrust.org.uk/schools/festivals/bsmf/>