

Music development plan summary:

Dixons Music Primary – Bradford

This document is designed to give a summary of the high-quality music provision at this academy in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, considering the key features in the national plan for music education:

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for Key Stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	January 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	January 2027
Name of the academy music lead	Daniel Gibson
Name of academy leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Sarah Littlewood Laura Payton Nicola Morrissey
Name of local music hub	Bradford Music & Arts Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Dixons Academies Trust - Director of Music, Tamsin Rafnsson

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our students 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 students and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our students’ 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 students can achieve.

- From EYFS to Year 6 all students have a 40 minute vocal lesson and a 40 minute curriculum lesson
- The vocal curriculum takes inspiration from the Kodaly methods featured in the Jolly Music Scheme.
- Curriculum lessons take inspiration from the NPME, MMC, Charanga, and Musical Futures where students have various opportunities to play multiple instruments, such as: djembes, ukuleles, glockenspiels, untuned percussion, traditional samba instruments, and keyboards.
- Students in Year 4 to Year 6 work towards vocal examinations with specialised peripatetic teachers.
- Students in Year 4 to Year 6 have specialised woodwind instrumental lessons, starting with recorders/penny whistles and for those who wish to take this further other woodwind instruments are available. These lessons are on rotation throughout the academic year to allow all students the opportunity to do this.



- More details on the intentions of our curriculum, skills and the curriculum overview can be found on the school website.
- Aligning with our Trust's focus on the joy of learning we focus on high quality teaching and excellent culture in lessons, opportunities for success and difficulty, underpinned by clear routines, behaviour and relationships.
- Students explore performing, listening & appraising and composing during their music lessons and develop skills individually and as a team in group work.
- The curriculum incrementally builds so that each time a student comes back round to a skill they should be developing and improving their skills in that specific area e.g. keyboard performance work.
- The curriculum is both accessible and challenging for all, so that every student is capable of achieving their personal best under the expert guidance of a specialist teacher, supported by information from our Mountain Rescue department which helps us to adapt our teaching to meet the needs of every child.
- All lessons consider equity, diversity and inclusion; this includes choice of repertoire to cover a variety of genres, cultures and music from around the world, and watching to / listening to performances which aim to represent everyone from our diverse community.

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.

- Students in Year 4 to Year 6 can take additional vocal peripatetic music lesson with a clear focus on examinations. Free of charge for all.
- Students in Year 4 to Year 6 can take additional woodwind peripatetic music lesson with a clear focus on examinations. Free of charge for all.
- Students in Year 1 to Year 6 can join our Young Voices choir which takes place during their respective lunches throughout the week. There is currently a large waiting list so we are exploring the possibilities of adding additional rehearsals for these to facilitate this growing interest. Free of charge for all.
- Students in Year 6 can join our drum group which takes place on a Tuesday lunch break run by a specialist percussion tutor. Free of charge for all.
- Students in Year 1 to Year 6 can join our Music Skills group on a Thursday after school. Charged in alignment with other afterschool activities.
- Students in Year 1 to Year 6 can choose to take part in Rocksteady Music lessons (paid by parents) where students can focus on band skills and ensemble performance.
- We are looking to expand our peripatetic music offer in the future and consequently will adapt/expand our extracurricular offer.

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.

- Plumber Drummer - Children in KS1/2 Experience a unique drumming entertainment experience using drainpipes.
- Nativity Play – Early Years perform the Nativity and Whoopsy Daisy Angel.
- Year group performances – throughout the year all students will have the opportunity to perform in dedicated showcases for their respective year group.
- Dixons Cup – the music department encourages students to enter solo performance work to be considered for commendation and bronze, silver and gold awards as part of the Trust Wide Dixons Cup competition. These opportunities are offered at various points in the year – this year we hope to offer this during Cycle 2. Students participating in external extra-curricular events can also be eligible to collect participation points for their academy towards the final total at the end of the year.
- Winter Showcase – Thurs 29 Nov 4:30pm (with some additional large scale rehearsals to take place in the lead up to the event). This will involve most of the ensembles plus a mixture of solo and duet performances and will involve students from Year 1-11. Students wishing to participate should see the Head of Music. This is a collaborative showcase with Dixons Trinity Academy.
- Spring Showcase – Thursday 19th March 4:30pm This will involve most of the ensembles plus a mixture of solo and duet performances and will involve students from Year 1-11. Students wishing to participate should see the Head of Music. This is a collaborative showcase with Dixons Trinity Academy.
- Music examinations – Recorded throughout the year.
- Music For Youth festival – We are planning to showcase our chamber choir at the upcoming music for youth festival, firstly with the regional qualifier in Huddersfield, with the aim to qualify and perform at Birmingham Symphony Hall and beyond. Date TBC



- Young Voices – In January our students will be performing at Sheffield Utilita Arena as part of the Young Voices Showcase where thousands of students all perform together in a massed choir.
- Collaboration Concert – Monday 13th July – we hope to offer the opportunity for all players Yr 1-6 to be part of a Trust-wide performance which will take place at St George’s Hall in Bradford during the Summer Term. Ticket price TBC.
- In addition to the above planned events we are always liaising with Bradford Music Hub and other local arts organisations to provide any other enrichment opportunities or trips for our students.

In the future

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

- In the future we aim to continue to aim to continue to expand our peripatetic music offer, with a greater number of students learning a wider range of instruments Curriculum
- We also want to expand our extracurricular offer to further increase the number of musical experiences our students have.
- We aim to continue and develop our work in the community and further raise the profile of Dixon’s Music Primary as a beacon for all primary schools.

We are constantly trying to ensure we offer the best musical opportunities to our students. Please see below some of the things we are planning for this year and beyond to maintain and build on our current provision:

Curriculum

- We are constantly seeking student feedback to ensure the artists represented in lessons are representative of our demographic and align to our wider equality, diversity and inclusion work

Outside the Curriculum

- We are investigating the possibility of expanding our extra-curricular opportunities to include some Bhangra skills and other workshop style experiences
- We are looking to expand our peripatetic music offer for all students to include a wider variety of instruments. This will then feed into our extracurricular offer.
- We are constantly looking for other opportunities to perform within our community and beyond.
- We are currently investigating community projects to allow our families to come in to school during the holidays to use music facilities to give experiences to all ages aligning with our Cradle 2 Career work.

Dixons Music Primary will continue to work with the Trust and local networks to bring the joy of music beyond the classroom through further enrichment opportunities.

Further information (optional)

Please find below some useful links which you may find helpful when considering your child’s musical experiences inside and outside the academy:

- Bradford Music Hub
- Bradford Music Hub’s Connect Programme Partner - Young Sounds Connect
- Jolly Music - Jolly Music
- The National Plan for Music Education – NPME
- The Model Music Curriculum - MMC
- The Department for Education publishes a guide for parents and young people on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

