

Music development plan summary: St Angela's Ursuline School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026/27
Date this summary was published	1st September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	1st September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mr W Ramos
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Ms L Ofori
Name of local music hub	Newham Music

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 is taught to all KS3 students as part of the compulsory national curriculum. Students are able to continue the musical development by taking **GCSE Music** in Year 10-11, and **A-Level Music** in Year 12-13.

Link to KS3-5 Music Curriculum: [KS3-5 Music Curriculum and academic awards](#)

KS3 Music is taught for one hour per week, KS4 Music 5 lessons per fortnight, KS5 Music 10 lessons per fortnight

Our KS3 music curriculum is informed by the [model music curriculum](#) (March 2021) where students at the end of Year 9 will have:

- gained an aural knowledge of some of the great musical output of human civilisation
- engaged with creative processes through improvisation and composition
- built an understanding of how musical elements work and discussed how these
- interact with subjective and objective models of musical meaning
- developed knowledge of a wider range of notes and improved their fluency in music notation

All KS3 students have the opportunity to sing through whole-class ensemble teaching with further opportunities to sing in small groups or as soloists. They are also given the opportunity to learn the piano and guitar, whilst those with prior tuition in other instruments such as the flute and violin will be able to develop their performing skills further.

KS4 Music develops their performing skills individually and in groups to communicate musically with fluency and control of their instrument and/or voice. Their composing skills are developed to organise musical ideas and make use of appropriate resources. Through classroom lessons as well as participation in co-curricular music ensembles, activities and trips, students have the opportunity to broaden their musical experience and interests, develop imagination, foster creativity and develop the knowledge, understanding and skills needed to communicate effectively as musicians.

KS5 Music engages students actively in developing performing skills to demonstrate an understanding of musical elements, style, sense of continuity, interpretation and expression, and developing composing skills to demonstrate the manipulation of musical ideas and the use of musical devices and conventions. We build strategies that develop our students as effective, independent learners and as critical and reflective thinkers with enquiring minds, to reflect critically and make personal judgements on their own and others' music, and engage with, and extend appreciation of, the diverse heritage of music in order to promote personal, social, intellectual and cultural development.

To increase access for disabled pupils and supporting pupils with special educational needs (SEND), music teachers identify core areas for development and supporting strategies (how targets will be achieved) on student IEPs (Individual Education Plan) that are subject specific, relating directly to subject topics, subject content and subject specific skills. These targets are reviewed annually. The school's SEND Policy can be found [here](#).

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.

Outside of lesson time St Angela's offers:

★ Choirs

- Main School Choir: Open to all year groups after successful audition
- Gospel Choir: Open to all Year 9 to 13 students
- Youth Choir: Open to all Year 7 to 8 students
- 6th Form Choir: Open to all Year 12 to 13 students

★ Instrumental ensembles - Open to all year groups

- Orchestra
- Guitar Ensemble
- Percussion Group

★ Band opportunities

★ Musical theatre opportunities

★ Individual/paired instrumental and singing tuition on-site (partnership with Newham Music)

- Piano
- Voice
- Guitar
- Drum kit

- Violin / Viola
- Flute
- Clarinet
- Alto Saxophone

Pupil Premium/Free School Meals eligibility

Students eligible for Pupil Premium and/or Free School Meals receive a subsidy for lessons, including free paired tuition.

Instrument loan

Students learning the following instruments are able to loan these instruments through Newham Music: Violin, Viola, flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone.

Rehearsal space

All large ensembles rehearse in the main Music Room. We also have four practice rooms where instrumental lessons take place. Students learning an instrument have access to these rooms for individual practice during break, lunchtime and after school (or study periods for 6th Form students)

Draw on information of any partnerships the school has to support co-curricular music, such as with your local music hub or other music education organisations.

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.

- ★ Christmas and Summer Concerts
 - Performances by all four choirs, the orchestra, instrumental ensembles and bands
- ★ Annual school musical (previous shows include Oliver, Wizard of Oz and High School Musical)
- ★ Chamber Concerts
 - Opportunity for our musicians to showcase their talents to family and friends
- ★ Masses at St Antony's RC Church, Forest Gate
 - Choir leading the singing for school Masses and Brentwood Diocese events
- ★ Liturgy (termly)
- ★ Orchestra trips
 - Regular trips to prestigious venues such as the Royal Festival Hall and Barbican to see the London Symphony and Philharmonic Orchestra
- ★ Trip to musicals
- ★ Senior Voices Day
 - Newham Music event - collaborating with other Secondary School choirs
- ★ Choir trip abroad
 - Previous trips include Barcelona, Amsterdam, Venice and Disneyland Paris

Over the years, the reputation of music at St Angela's has grown significantly. Many vocal and instrumental opportunities present themselves every year. Other events include:

- [BBC Sing East!](#) (January 2024)
- Hosting Newham Senior Voices Day (March 2024)
- Workshops with the BBC Singers (December 2023)
- Choir singing for the [Migrants Mass](#) celebrated by Bishop Alan Williams (May 2023)
- Choir singing for the [Ursuline Roman Union Centenary](#) (October 2023)
- Performing for [New Zealand at the Tower of London](#) for the Rugby World Cup 2015

In the future

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

- ★ Sustaining the large number and variety of music performance opportunities currently available to our students
- ★ Continue to provide opportunities to see live music (concerts, theatres, halls)
- ★ Involvement in musical competitions/events outside of school
- ★ Continue access to visiting specialist teachers for individual or paired lessons, with subsidised rates for disadvantaged students
- ★

Further information

- ★ Music achievements regularly feature on the [St Angela's Instagram page](#).
- ★ The Department for Culture, Media & Sport's Policy [Turn It Up: Our plan for music](#)
- ★ [National plan for music education](#)
- ★ The Department for Education [guide for parents and young people](#) on how to get involved in music in and out of school, and where to for support beyond the school.
- ★ Your local [music hub](#) is Newham Music. To view their local plan for music education, please see the [Newham Music website](#) for further details.