

Music development plan

Noel Baker Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	Sept 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Nicholas Dilkes
Name of local music hub	Derbyshire Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s)	

Curriculum music

Music is taught one hour a week at KS3 following a broad and balanced curriculum giving students the opportunity to play the keyboard, guitar, drums, read a range of notations, compose music, sing and use music technology.

Our curriculum is comparable in breadth and ambition to the model music curriculum. It enables students to explore their musical interests and talents and give them the skills to be musicians. We cover a range of topics to develop students understanding of the elements of music, and become competent performers and composers, these include keyboard skills, guitar skills, blues, protest music, adverts, film music, hip hop, Indian classical. The experiences students build students' cultural capital through their playing of music but also through their study of historical and social contexts of styles of music.

KS4 students study the AQA GCSE Music course and develop their playing ability on their chosen instrument through performance, their compositions skills through writing music on instruments and through music technology and their ability to Listen to and analyse music.

We have 2 Music classrooms and each are equipped with 15 keyboards, 20 guitars, Electric guitar amps, PA system, drum kit and 15 Mac computers with music software.

We have a recording studio with a set of microphones and studio quality speakers and four music practice rooms equipped with drum kits, keyboards and guitars.

Co-curricular music

Outside of the classroom we have a number of music groups students can join afterschool for free. They are Choir, music practice, Guitar club, school band and songwriting club. These are weekly clubs open to all students.

We have 4 practice rooms available for students to use on a number of days after school.

Musical experiences

We have a number of events planned across the academic year to give students the opportunity to perform.

In December there will be a musical performance by the school band and choir to all students during Christmas Lunch.

During the Spring term there will be a year 7 choir competition, which involves the whole year group showcasing their progress made in class to each other.

In March 2026 there will be a music concert to showcase students achievements in music. This event is for parents to attend with a small fee.

Students will also perform during Sports day events leading the parade with Samba drumming and a band performance during lunchtime.

After the success of the July 2025 tour to Spain, we will be offering a music tour in 2027 with planning and student sign up starting in the summer term.

In the future

- Music tour
- Trips to live music performances
- Reintroduction of peripatetic music lessons