

Music development plan: Brinsworth Academy 2024-25

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mr D Timmons
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs L Bingham
Name of local music hub	Rotherham Music Hub

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.

Brinsworth Academy is committed to an inclusive curriculum in all areas including music and the Performance Faculty. Students at Brinsworth Academy are given the opportunity to undertake 1 hour of music as part of their timetabled provision at KS3 with the option to undertake music at KS4 completing a BTEC Course as part of their KS4 options. Our aim at Brinsworth Academy is for students to be given the opportunity to be involved in active music making and gain an understanding of a wide range of styles and genres understanding the key features of this to enable them to talk using musical vocabulary and also perform and compose in the styles of these genres.

Students are encouraged to undertake further musical activities during extra-curricular sessions including Rock Band and School Production rehearsals which includes singing and instrumental development opportunities. This alongside regular performance opportunities within music and the performing arts strand of the faculty including showcase events, school productions and community gatherings.

Over recent years the music provision at Brinsworth Academy had been supported by the introduction of the Model Music Curriculum, which is non-statutory guidance that was published in 2021. Lessons are regularly reviewed and developed using this guidance to help provide the best learning opportunities which have been devised by industry professionals. Lessons at KS3 regularly follow 4 strands of learning providing Listening and Appraising, Composition, Performance and Singing opportunities.

Core values within the music department follow the 4 main learning opportunities (Listening and Appraising, Composition, Performance and Singing) which regularly feature in all KS3 lessons. Students are provided opportunities to develop instrumental skills on a number of musical instruments including Keyboard, Ukulele and Guitar as well as regular singing opportunities within timetabled lessons. A variety of genres and composers are used both in Listening and appraising and performance activities to provide a breadth of understanding of different musical styles. Students are encouraged to develop their musical skills both as a soloist and within ensembles throughout KS3, helping to provide 'real world' musical experiences and develop interpersonal skills in line with the school's core values of Achieving Excellence – Respect, Resilience, Responsibility.

The music department prides itself on delivering high quality learning experiences within the classroom, this alongside its 1-1 instrumental provision where students are given further opportunities to develop their instrumental skills. Instrumental tutors are sourced according to student needs and are regularly assessed in line with expectations at the academy to deliver the best provision for our young people. Current Instrumental focus' include Drums, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Keyboard/Piano and Vocals, but are not limited to this provision if demand warrants alternative instrumental opportunities to be provided.

Links to professional organisations such as the Rotherham Music Hub are used as part of the provision offered at Brinsworth Academy. The department also uses wider industry links on an individual basis to ensure the best provision can be sourced without being tied to certain organisations. Wider department links include Higher Rhythm Studies, Water Bear (Sheffield) and Endeavour Music Projects all of which allow the

department to visit and seek support and guidance to help students at Brinsworth Academy develop skills within the music industry.

The Academy's Music department currently offers the Pearson BTEC Tech Award L1/2 in Music Practice at KS4, as well as the Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Music Performance at KS5. Both of these courses follow a vocational pathway into the music industry and offer real world experiences in Performing, Creating and Producing Music.

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.

Brinsworth Academy music department is proud to offer a wealth of extra-curricular opportunities to our young people including ensemble and individual music groups and sessions. Our Rock Band club is well established with students across KS3 attending weekly, creating music as individuals and as a group, sharing in their love of Music whilst developing their skills. Our students are encouraged to be a part of school production in which students undertake Singing, Acting and Dancing as part of the show, provision that has seen an increase in student participation over recent years, along with the development of quality in the theatrical and musical outcome.

Further provision that has also been provided over recent years includes Ukulele Club, Drum Club and Music Tech Club, opportunities that will continue to be provided throughout the school year.

Our vocal ensemble works alongside our School Production team, where productions are not being developed during the school year provision turns to weekly vocal 'choir' sessions, helping to support timetabled vocal development in KS3 music lessons.

The department is a hive of musical activity outside of timetabled lessons, notably before and after school along with break and lunchtimes where the department is regularly open for students to come and practice their instrumental skills and develop musical expertise of their own choosing.

Our wider links identified above enable students to take part in the Arts Award program. This has been a successful additional strand to the music provision at

Brinsworth and thanks to the support of wider agencies will continue into the next academic year 2024/25.

Our instrumental provision is mainly accessed by KS4 students who are provided these lessons as part of their KS4/5 music course for the duration of their examination years. This 20-minute 1-1 lesson is individually tailored towards student instrumental development needs usually on one of the following instruments; Drum Kit, Guitar, Bass Guitar, Keyboard/Piano or Vocals. Given the vocational nature of the KS4/5 BTEC music course we also encourage students to develop their skills on a variety of instruments most notably students singing and playing the Guitar or Keyboard. We are able to offer 1-1 provision to students not undertaking examination courses at KS4/5 at a cost to parents/carers at home, something that we aim to increase over the next academic year.

Further extra-curricular opportunities include our annual trip to see professional performances. This trip regularly sees students across all key stages attend professional performances in London to help build aspirations in the arts field. This event alongside wider opportunities to perform at local events venues such as Magna, students are given the chance to interact with other young musicians and perform to wider audiences.

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.

In the future

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

The faculty undertakes yearly reviews of its curriculum and offer to the young people at Brinsworth Academy and as a result have identified a number of areas that would help to continue this development over the next 12-24 months. Some of these areas include:

- The development of a Senior and Junior Rock Band. These ensembles would run in conjunction with the Rock Band club that is already well established at the Academy, allowing for clear progression in musical skills to be developed.
- The addition of singing assemblies as part of the continue of vocal provision. This area of the curriculum is already being developed particularly at KS3 during timetabled lessons with the hope this could be developed further by providing year group singing sessions as part of morning assemblies.
- The reintegration of regular Ukulele, Music Tech and Drum Clubs to be help weekly throughout the academic year.
- Provide more opportunities for students to undertake 1-1 instrumental Music lessons.
- Further performance opportunities to be provided as part of the NCLT Trust.

