

Music Development Plan Summary: Bolder Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Nico Loseto
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Andy DeAngelis
Name of local music hub	Hounslow Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Restore The Music Foundation

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: Music Curriculum

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.

The Music Curriculum at Bolder consists of 1 lesson per week at KS3 and 3 lessons for KS4. Our curriculum is designed to cover the major aspects of music education including theory and history.

The curriculum also follows the model music curriculum (2021) as well as going beyond its guidelines.

Pupils will have the opportunity to play a variety of musical genres and gather knowledge of the following aspects:

- YEAR 7: Rhythmical Studies, Sight Reading and Dictation, Whole Class Singing, Piano Skills (how to identify notes on the instrument), Learning chords, triads and the C Major Scale, History of Western Classical Tradition.
- YEAR 8: Rhythmical Studies level 2 including compound time signatures and rests. Learning how to compose a piece of music on a manuscript paper using elements of traditional rhythms from certain parts of, India and the Middle East, all in writing. Developing piano skills and sight reading by learning chord symbols. The blues. Ensemble music with Reggae playing ukulele and singing in little groups. History of Rock music from 1950 till today.
- YEAR 9: Advanced music theory, 7th chords and tonality of G and F Major, Cadences. Jazz music. GCSE style SoW on solo performance as student would pick a piece of music to learn and perform to the best of their ability: POP, RAP, classical, rock are some of the genres covered during term 2. How to analyse a piece of music by looking at the score and listening. Composing a piece of POP music in writing or using Sibelius.

The school has strong links with Hounslow Music Service who currently provide our peripatetic teachers. All instrumental teachers provide our students with extra-curricular support for the school enrichment provision.

Through a partnership with both the local hub, as well as with "Restore The Music Foundation" (RTMF), students have the opportunity to engage in a wealth of extra-curricular music provision that goes beyond the curriculum.

At KS4 we use EDUQAS examining board and students are provided with the necessary platforms to achieve well in both composition and performance.

All students across key stage 3 and 4 have the opportunity for breadth as well as depth in the curriculum through whole class singing, drumming, and through activities based around the use of a range of instruments including keyboards, guitars, ukuleles, recorders and Gamelan, all of which are well-stocked in the department thanks to a recent monetary award donated by the RTMF. Students with special educational needs and those who speak English as a second language

do particularly well in this discipline due to the opportunities we provide for practical music-making and learning in lessons.

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.

The school provides all children with the opportunity to study an instrument independent to classroom lessons as follows: strings, brass, woodwind, piano, singing, drums and other instruments, if requested. This service is provided together with the Hounslow Music Service.

The Music Department provides a series of extra-curricular activities as listed:

- Year 7 Choir
- School Choir
- Guitar Ensemble
- Band practice (student led)
- Music Technology & Production Club
- Ukulele club
- Staff band

Students will have the opportunity to participate in external events such as the Hounslow Battle of the Bands.

Additionally, pupils are able to book practice rooms to further their band practice and independent instrumental study. We have a larger space dedicated to our music ensembles which facilitates further engagement.

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.

The school already have 2 concerts planned each year such as the Christmas and the Summer Concert.

There are booked trips to watch musical shows such as 'Wicked'.

Future plans consist of increasing the number of opportunities to showcase musical engagement and ability at the school, through events, performances and assemblies.

Together with the drama and dance departments we will be running the school musical on a 2 yearly basis. These departments are all a part of the Faculty of "Expressive Arts".

All students are encouraged to participate in as many school events as they can, and to support their peers. All events are free of charge or subject to a £1 ticket to cover extra expenses. We have a big focus on PP and FSM students through the promotion and supporting their participation to extracurricular activities.

A Bolder Anthem and culture of whole school singing was established in 2023. The Bolder Academy school anthem, composed by the music department, is sung at the start of all assemblies and the school choir sing this at all concerts at the start.

In the future

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

In the future, our plan is to stretch and challenge all students by implementing a higher level of musical knowledge starting from as early as year 7. Students will learn the basics of music via notation reading and have a deeper knowledge of harmony sequences. We will be high profiling our extra-curricular provision with a distinct marketing style in order to encourage a larger number of students to engage with instrumental tuition and whole school music ensembles. We will incorporate a range of genres to encourage that wider student engagement: classical, jazz, rock, pop.

Year 7-9 will be a large focus to ensure students are increasingly motivated to take music at GCSE and beyond. It will be a priority for the music department to ensure that music is highly accessible for all and that it is not only for those minority students who excel in instrumental tuition, but for all those who enjoy music in all

contexts. It is also tantamount that the expressive art departments (dance and drama) work closely with the music department to provide a cohesive, creative and successful faculty, with a large amount of engagement from the student body as well as from the staff body at Bolder.

Further information (optional)

Educational organisations:

www.hounslowmusic.org.uk

www.restorethemusicuk.com

Bolder Academy works closely with all music departments in the Borough of Hounslow and all Heads of Music meet 3 times a year to share best practice and to support one another in the drive to providing excellent music services to all students of all backgrounds in the Borough.

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.