

Music Development Plan: Carre's Grammar School



Overview

| Detail | Information |
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| Academic year that this summary covers | 2023-24 |
| Date that this summary was published | 26.06.24 |
| Date that this summary will be reviewed | June 2025 |
| Name of the school music lead | Ruth Quinton |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music | Keith Jones |
| Name of local music hub | Lincolnshire Music Hub |

| Music Development Plan | |
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| 1. Overall Objective | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop a lifelong interest in music. To give students the skills and knowledge to be able to make, create and appreciate music for themselves. To enable those students who want to take music study further, making sure they are ready for the next step. |
| 2. Key Components | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music curriculum including the use of instruments and music technology at KS3, KS4 & KS5 Visiting music teachers for instrumental lessons and workshops. Links with external music organisations (including Lincolnshire Music Service, RAF Auxiliary Band, Sleaford Concert Band) PP and SEND student engagement Extra-curricular groups Performing Opportunities including school concerts and representing the school in other locations Musical engagement with feeder primary schools Funding |
| 3. Classroom teaching | <p>KS3: Students are taught for 1 hour per week in form groups. The Programme of study is divided into Units:</p> <p>Y7: Unit 1: Music and Me; Unit 2: Rhythm; Unit 3: Pitch</p> <p>Y8: Unit 4: Scary Music; Unit 5: Fanfares; Unit 6: Ground Bass</p> <p>Y9: Unit 7: Music for Film; Unit 8: Blues; Unit 9: Music for Computer Games; Unit 10: All Time Classics</p> |

The Programme of Study is designed to incorporate a balance of performing and composing music, incrementally developing students' skills.

KS4: We study for the Edexcel GCSE Music qualification. GCSE Music is an option available to students if they wish to study music further. It is taught in 5 hours per fortnight.

KS5: We study for the Edexcel A Level Music qualification (this is delivered through Sleaford Joint Sixth form but based in our school). Students receive 5 hours of tuition per week.

4. Implementation of other key components

Visiting Music Teachers: We employ 2 instrumental teachers directly (for piano and drums). Other music tutors are provided by Lincolnshire Music Service. This year we have had 5 teachers covering upper strings, lower strings, guitar, brass and woodwind.

Students pay for these lessons (either school or LMS) with remissions available for FSM students.

Access to lessons is managed by the Office Manager. All new students receive information about instrumental lessons in the New Boys Welcome Pack which includes a form for parents to request lessons. Teachers also actively encourage students to take up instruments during the course of the year, directing students to the Office Manager so that this can be organised if parents agree.

Workshops: Currently Y7 receive a 1-hour workshop of Taiko Drumming as part of Unit 2: Rhythm. This is delivered by a specialist from Louder than Life Drumming, organised through our membership of LMS.

Links with external music organisations: Lincolnshire Music Service has a membership scheme, which we buy into. This gives us reduced prices for music workshops (see above) and a site licence to use Charanga software. RQ has developed links with the RAF Auxiliary Band and Sleaford Concert Band, particularly in the organisation of the annual Giant Orchestra Day.

PP and SEND student engagement: PP money has been used to purchase instruments for students taking GCSE Music but who have not got their own instrument. PP money has also been used to help students to fund trips to concerts. The department actively works to ensure that all SEND students are included in lessons with adaptations made to lesson delivery, following the students individual support plan. This includes using overlays, coloured paper and making other adaptations as necessary. The classroom is very accessible for those in wheelchairs or with other physical disabilities.

Extra-curricular activities: The department regularly runs a school band and junior choir each week. Other groups include a composition club (primarily focused on GCSE musicians although other students may attend), chamber choir, and keyboard club (mostly for Y7 and Y8 students) We work hard to promote and encourage student participation in these activities. We also review and adjust are extra-curricular offer each year to reflect students' interests and needs.

We are also organise regular trips to see concerts at Nottingham Royal Concert Hall, shows (in the West End or Nottingham) and to events run by LMS (including the Voice It Music Careers event).

Performing Opportunities: The department holds regular concerts, usually towards the end of the autumn and spring terms. Often these concerts are in conjunction with KSHS. We also sometimes add concerts for special occasions (for instance to mark the Coronation, or Remembrance, and to support the Mayor's Charity Fundraising).

Students also visit local care homes at Christmas and have performed at other local events. When opportunities arise students are taken to workshops and events provided by LMS such as the Singsation event with Hayley Sanderson and members of the Strictly Come Dancing Band.

Each summer term we host a 'Giant Orchestra Day' supported by LMS which attracts around 150 musicians from Carre's and other local schools and organisations.

Musical Engagement with Feeder Primary Schools: The annual Giant Orchestra Day which we hold each year has done much to establish relationships with several local primary schools who send their students to join us. The aim of this day is to promote continuity with students continuing to learn their instruments as they move up to secondary school, and also providing a positive experience of playing in an ensemble (something that many primary schools can't provide). We have taken students to primary schools to demonstrate instruments and promote instrumental playing. There is much more that could be done here but we are limited by time and financial restrictions.

Funding: The department received a budget of £1087 for 2023-24 academic year. Additional funds were given to us to purchase new keyboards for the classroom. We usually charge a ticket price for our main (non-charity) concerts the proceeds of which are used to fund activities such as the Giant Orchestra Day, and buy equipment for extra-curricular clubs.

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| <p>5. Communication activities</p> | <p>Information about the Music Department features on the school's website. Events are also publicised in the school's newsletter and on social media.</p> <p>RQ communicates directly with parents with letters about trips and concerts, with letters being delivered through Bromcom.</p> <p>Teachers are also able to contact parents by phone or email about individual student issues.</p> |
| <p>6. Evaluation process for the success of the Music Department Development Plan</p> | <p>RQ has fortnightly meetings with her SLT link (KJ) to discuss department issues.</p> <p>LMS provide support through their Area Manager and time from a link member of staff.</p> <p>Annual meetings are held with the Head Teacher (NL).</p> |
| <p>7. Transition work with local schools</p> | <p>Transition information is provided by the feeder primary schools and passed on to staff by the Head of Year.</p> <p>Parents requesting instrumental lessons prior to Y7 also gives us some idea of who plays instruments before they start.</p> <p>Primary teachers often email RQ with information about students who are joining us and LMS staff also pass on information. The Giant Orchestra Day enables to have met many of our new Y7 musicians over a number of years before they join the school.</p> <p>Unit 1 'Music and Me' programme of study has the aim of finding out about students' musical interests, experiences and abilities so that we can tailor our approach to individual students. It also aims to help students realise the importance of music in their lives.</p> |
| <p>8. Budget materials and staffing</p> | <p>The school has two part-time members of staff (RQ – 0.79 and KK – 0.44).</p> <p>Lessons delivered by our piano and drum teachers are funded by parents.</p> <p>LMS charge students independently for their lessons.</p> |
| <p>9. Pupil Premium and SEND provision</p> | <p>All SEND students have a learning profile which outlines their needs and strategies for supporting them. We have a policy of ensuring that all SEND students are able to access lessons and teachers work to ensure that their needs are met. This has included organising wheelchair access for trips.</p> <p>PP funds have historically only been used to support students once they have opted to study music for GCSE. Remissions on the cost of lesson are available for students who receive FSM.</p> |

10. Summary Action Plan for the future

- Improve rewards and recognition for students who participate in school ensembles. Students receive performance awards from staff (and chocolate after concerts). Introduce other forms of recognition extending from beyond the music department – Headteacher’s commendations, featuring in assemblies, reward trips.
- Consider ways to further establish links with local primary schools. These could possibly include visiting schools to support and promote music lessons in their schools. Could musicians from their schools join our band or choir for concerts?
- Improve access to instrumental lessons for those with limited incomes. Remissions for FSM students still leaves many students unable to afford instrumental tuition other than what we can offer in class lessons. The problem is compounded when students have siblings who also want to learn instruments. A contingency fund which families can apply for would be ideal – this wouldn’t just need to be for music support. This could be funded by donations, legacies from past students.
- Have a short concert for Y7 students (October?) to encourage participation in Music and engage with parents.
- Engagement with Y8 and Y9 musicians to promote excellence and encourage take-up at GCSE and A Level. These could include RAF brass players for fanfare project, trips to shows and concerts, DJ club.
- Music as part of the 6th form enrichment programme.