

Music development plan summary: The Ecclesbourne School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	20/10/2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Chris Ledger-Knapp
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Kathryn Taylor
Name of local music hub	Derbyshire Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Derbyshire Music Education 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.

All students receive 1 hour of Music tuition a week in Year 7-9. At GCSE students get 2 hours a week in Year 10 and 3 hours a week in Year 11. At A Level, this is increased to 5 hours a week of Music lessons.

All information regarding Curriculum can be found at the following link:

[Music | Ecclesbourne School](#)

Alongside the curriculum delivered above, students also have the opportunity to achieve an Arts Award, currently aimed at Year 8 but soon to be expanded.

Students also have the opportunity to take part in Instrumental/vocal music lessons, these are usually 20/30 minutes a week and cover all possible instruments. Students have the option to take graded exams as part of the Trinity or ABRSM syllabus as part of these.

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.

As stated above, students can have instrumental/vocal tuition for either 20 or 30 minute lessons a week in the following areas:

- Flute & Saxophone
- Clarinet
- Violin & Viola
- Cello & Contrabass
- Piano
- Voice (Musical Theatre & Classical)
- Voice (Musical Theatre & Pop)
- Brass (all types)
- Guitar (Electric, Bass, Classical & Spanish)
- Drums

Within these lessons, students have the option to take examinations if they wish.

Alongside our peripatetic music lessons, we offer a wide range of extra-curricular activities, including:

- Brass Group (open to all Brass players)
- String Group (open to all String players)
- Orchestra (open to all instrumentalists)
- School Choir (open to all singers)
- Chamber Choir (Auditioned choir)
- Men's Choir (open to all singers)
- Swing Band (Open to instrumentalists Grade 4/5 and above)

These ensembles happen weekly during the Autumn and Spring term. During the summer term we do a whole school musical combining the skills of the music, drama and art departments and students.

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.

Students have ample opportunity to engage in musical experiences here at Ecclesbourne, these include:

- Christmas & Spring Concerts: these happen every year and take into account all of our instrumental/vocal ensembles, as see in Part B.
- Christmas Carol Concert: taking place at a local church, this features smaller ensembles and soloists as well as combines readings and community carols.
- Stars In Your Eyes: this is a singing competition which takes place every year in February, students go through auditions before performing at a final during the evening, there is a judging panel and the audience gets the opportunity to cast their votes too.
- Young Ecclesbourne Musician of the Year: taking place in the Summer Term, this is part of the House Music competition and students go through an audition before performing at the final in front of an audience. The competition features three categories: Soloist (Young Ecclesbourne Musician of the Year), Duet or Band category. Points are awarded to the houses based on participation and placing within the competition.
- House Choir: this competition pits each house against each other in a friendly competition to see which house can create the best choral ensemble. Each choir performs to the Head of Music and gets placed, points are awarded to the respective houses based on their placing.
- Whole school musical: this takes place in the Summer term each year and combines the talents of the whole of the Creative Arts faculty and students.
- Prize Day: the prize giving ceremony happens every year and some students are asked to perform as part of this.
- Governors Awards: happening at the end of the year, celebrating the work that certain students have done. The musical students amongst these perform at this event.
- Open evening: as part of the Year 6 open evening, we always have ensembles playing in the music department and engaging with the people coming round discussing music at Ecclesbourne
- Little Eaton Carnival: as part of Little Eaton Carnival (the next village from our school), our Swing Band is always given a slot to perform as part of the festivities.
- Enterprise evening: as part of the enterprise evening which sees Food Technology students take over a local restaurant and cook and serve the food, our Swing Band usually supports this with some light jazz music to accompany the canopies and drinks.

Other events which happen on a more sporadic basis are:

- Community tea party: elderly residents from the local community are invited into school for afternoon tea and as part of this many of our music students will entertain them. These typically happen twice a year.
- Performances in assembly: these happen from time-to-time and usually occur at the end of a year or term, often Heads of Year will ask students to perform something to the year group.
- House plays: whilst predominately a drama production written, directed and produced by the students, sometimes these will feature musical items.
- Chamber concert: In the summer term in most years, we will do a chamber music concert, usually at a local church and this gives an opportunity for our students who have peripatetic music lessons to show off what they have been working on throughout the year.
- A Level music students get the opportunity to go on regular trips; usually to Royal Concert Hall in Nottingham to see the world's top orchestras and help supplement their studies.

In the future

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

- We are currently looking at gaining an ArtsMark status so that we can continue to raise the profile of the Arts within the school.
- As always, we are working towards our large-scale summer musical.
- Looking for further opportunities within the local community that school can get involved with.

Further information (optional)

The Ecclesbourne School is proud to be associated with the Derbyshire Music Education Hub. Many of the students at our school are members of one of the music centres that they offer, for more information about this organisation, follow the link:

[Derbyshire Music Education Hub \(derbyshiremusicclub.org.uk\)](http://derbyshiremusicclub.org.uk)