

Music development plan summary:  
**St Catherine's College**

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	October 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Matthew Healey
Name of local music hub	Create Music

## Curriculum music

At St Catherine's College, students study a wide range of musical styles and genres. Music plays a vital role in their daily lives, with every student encouraged to participate in music-making and to develop their musical abilities to the highest level. The department strongly believes that "Everyone Feels Musical"; therefore, every lesson instils confidence in students' musical abilities through exciting performance and compositional projects. With a school ensemble, rock and pop bands, vocal groups, and numerous exciting music concerts and projects, the Music Department is one of the busiest and liveliest departments in the school.

<https://www.stcatherines.college/page/?title=Music&pid=309>

## Music Curriculum Plans

Year 7: [Click to view](#)

Year 8: [Click to view](#)

Year 9: [Click to view](#)

Year 10 and 11: [Click to view](#)

## Co-curricular music

Music is a unique form of communication that can change the way students feel, think, and act. Music forms part of an individual's identity, and positive interaction

with music can develop students' competence as learners and increase their self-esteem.

Students are provided with rich opportunities to perform, starting in lessons where all students regularly sing and play instruments. As they progress through Year 7, they have opportunities to play all of the instruments available, including ukuleles, keyboards, Apple Macs, guitars, bass guitars, xylophones, drum kits, and percussion. By Year 9, students often specialise in an instrument (or voice) and use this to access the music curriculum.

In addition to their lessons, students have various options for learning an instrument. In Year 7, all students attend a workshop in which a variety of instruments are showcased, with information about the instruments and how to access lessons. This workshop is led by Create Music, our local hub for lessons and workshops.

Additionally, we collaborate with a private singing teacher, Lavinia Salisbury, who teaches many students in one-to-one and group lessons every week. Lavinia also works with us to enhance our choirs.

We offer regular music clubs to further develop students' musicianship. This year, we will run a weekly choir, house band, and music technology club.

Students are also welcomed into the department during lunchtimes, where many will form their own bands or work on computer-based projects. Students just need to speak to Mr Healey to arrange a time for this.

All information on how to join any club or access additional instrumental lessons can be found in the music department or on the school website.

## **Musical experiences**

Each year, there are frequent and worthwhile opportunities to perform music at St Catherine's College. This year will see the return of our Summer Festival, a whole-school celebration of music and the arts. The festival takes place in the school grounds and invites the local community to come together to enjoy music and participate in the many activities and events our students put on. Music students are all encouraged to rehearse and prepare performances, and many will take to the stage to perform, either in their own bands, as soloists, or in the many department-led pieces we will organise.

Our Christmas Concert this year will take place in the school hall, providing an opportunity for many musicians to showcase their talent and hard work. This year, we will bring together a choir to work alongside our house band, and we will also tell the story of the Nativity through music and drama performances.

We are thrilled to be working with Glyndebourne Opera House to perform some of Johann Sebastian Bach's most celebrated pieces. This autumn, a team from Glyndebourne will work with 50 Year 7 students to learn several pieces in various languages. The students will also be composing their own music, which will be orchestrated and performed by some of the finest musicians in the country. This is a superb opportunity for our students and builds on the success of last year.

In the spring term, we will host a Live Lounge: a smaller, more relaxed opportunity for students to showcase their music. This is often an environment where students will perform for the first time, providing them with a relaxed and supportive place to do so. The students will work hard, usually independently, to prepare for this event, with a large proportion of the music coming from the KS3 curriculum.