

Paignton Academy Music Development Plan

Overview

This document outlines the music development plan for Paignton Academy for the academic year 2025-2026. It details how our school delivers a music education to all pupils across the KS3 and 4 curriculums as well as extra-curricular music. This information is designed to help students, parents and carers get an insight into what our school offers and how we work with students to support their music education.

If you have any further questions regarding the music provision at Paignton Academy, please email me at ikk@tsatrust.org.uk

I. Kerék

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	<i>2025-2026</i>
Date this summary was published	<i>Sept 2025</i>
Date this summary will be reviewed	<i>Sept 2026</i>
Name of the school music lead	<i>I. Kerék- Head of Music</i>
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	<i>Sian Dale - Head of Faculty</i>
Name of local music hub	<i>Devon Education Services (Devon & Torbay Music Education Hubs, School Library Service)</i>
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	<i>Sound Communities</i>

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.

- *We teach all KS3 students in years 7, 8 and 9, a 1-hour lesson each week.*
- *At KS4, we run GCSE Music (OCR). Classes are timetabled for 5 lessons a fortnight.*
- *The KS3 curriculum has been designed for exciting and engaging music making experiences across a range of different instruments and voice. This includes whole class keyboards, djembes, steel pans, ukuleles, guitars and samba.*
- *The curriculum is scaffolded so that prior learning is built upon incrementally, lesson by lesson but also topic by topic, so students not only broaden their skill sets by trying new instruments but also deepen their musical learning and abilities by developing specific skills through repetition and practice.*
- *Specific topics have been included at KS3 that are built upon at KS4 level, for example Calypso and Film Music are both studied at KS3 level, which are elemental to OCR GCSE Music.*
- *ICT in music is introduced in year 9 to enable pupils to develop the core knowledge needed to successfully and creatively manipulate sound, a requirement at KS4.*
- *Music lessons offer opportunities to work individually, but also in pairs and groups; teamwork is critical to quality ensemble music-making.*
- *Paignton Academy's Music curriculum embeds the 4 strands of music making: singing, listening, composing, performing/ instrumental performance.*
- *KS3 music home learning combines retrieval practice which gives students the opportunity to embed prior learning with flipped listening activities specifically designed to broaden an understanding of musical culture and knowledge of repertoire.*
- *Our music team provides ongoing feedback to improve student's musical technique and expression.*
- *We routinely illustrate what high-quality musical responses sound like through practical demonstration and modelling as well as the processes for achieving those outcomes.*
- *The KS4 curriculum currently offers OCR GCSE Music.*
<https://ocr.org.uk/Images/219378-specification-accredited-gcse-music-j536.pdf>

- All KS4 student's study; musical performance, appraisal, composition and production skills and specialise on a specific instrument, voice or sequencing pathway.
- Our KS4 pathway allows for progression to KS5 to continue musical learning at a higher level at both academic and vocational level.

- KS4 home learning is based on coursework requirements and consists of extended projects and retrieval quizzes.

- Our curriculum has been informed by the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021) and includes central elements from the National Plan for Music Education.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teaching-music-in-schools>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-power-of-music-to-change-lives-a-national-plan-for-music-education>

Devon and Torbay Music Hub

We have strong links with the Devon and Torbay Music Hub. They have provided Paignton Academy with; funding, instrument loans, a range of enrichment programs, performing opportunities, networking and CPD.

Whole Class Instrumental Hire: Steel Pans (Jumbie Jams)

1-year instrumental hire: Double Bass

Violin Project: Students received expert tuition from a local visiting violin teacher for 10 consecutive weeks.

Music Tuition Bursary: Financial support for extending one to one music provision.

Visiting Music Teachers: One to one specialist music teachers recommended by the hub.

Funding Links- Universal Music UK Sound Foundation: Successful application of grant for a double bass.

SEND

- We have excellent access to music for our SEND and disabled students.
- SEND students are offered additional space for making music with the departments individual practice rooms. This allows for improved sound control, reduced distraction and more space for wheelchair users.
- The SEND budget has also been used to help pay for extra music provision for individual students when appropriate as well as for organising music trips to see world class musicians visiting the area.

Pupil Premium

- Students with pupil premium status are offered 1- 1 instrumental lessons that are partially funded individually or in groups.

All students can participate in three musical events each year; The Winter Concert, School Production and The Summer Festivals. There are also one-off performing opportunities such as events within the local community and primary schools and invitations to perform in local venues.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Music Tuition

- High quality experienced music teachers are provided to us by the Devon and Torbay Music service.
- Outside of lesson time, we offer 1-1 lessons as well as small-group lessons in instruments or voice.

Paignton Academy offers a range of opportunities for students to learn musical instruments with expert teachers. We currently have specialist teachers who offer lessons on; piano, singing, drums, guitar, bass and woodwind (clarinet, flute, saxophone) and can arrange lessons on a wide range of instruments on request.

To request lessons for your child, an electronic form is available by emailing the Head of Music or collecting a letter during lesson time.

Students can choose to learn on their own, or in a pair, and lessons last between 20 - 30 minutes.

The cost per student per lesson varies depending on the instrument, but as a guide last year most were charged at £12 for a 20-minute individual lesson or £16 for a 30-minute individual lesson. Lessons take place during Academy time on a rota basis where possible so that students do not miss the same subject every week.

Students who have pupil premium status are often entitled to subsidised music tuition; this also includes students who receive free school meals. The school happily assists any parent or carer who has a child with pupil premium status to sign up for lessons where help is needed.

Students can follow a learning pathway with a focus on playing for fun, learning by ear, whereas some select a more academic pathway with formal music notation. Lessons are tailored by their music teachers with discussions with parents and carers to determine what best suits each individual student. Some students opt for graded exams following the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) or using Rock School London (RSL).

For parents and carers wishing to hire musical instruments, they can do this through the music education hub at £33 a term.

<https://www.musiceducationhub.org/site/parents-carers/hiring-an-instrument>

Part C: Musical experiences

Paignton Academy Musical Ensembles

Our Music Clubs run every day during lunch or after school and are attended by different students in all year groups across both sites of the school. These support students to develop excellent musicianship as well as collaborative and communication skills and improved confidence. Our current musical production; High School Musical, rehearses after school with final performances in March 2026.

All our school clubs are free of charge. Students can get involved by emailing or speaking to the Head of Music.

Our school ensembles include:

- *Year 8 Band (Both Sites)*
- *Steel Band (WRC Summer term only)*
- *Senior Band (Both Sites)*
- *Musical Theatre Club (Both Sites)*
- *Selected Voices/ Choir (All Years)*
- *Musical Production Cast/Chorus (Both Sites- All Years)*
- *Mixed Year Band (Both Sites)*
- *Student led ensembles can practice at lunch and after school using the school music practice rooms.*

The music practice rooms are open every lunchbreak for students to improve practical work that has been taught in lesson time. This also encourages independently formed groups and offers a safe, quiet space for students focussing on individual rehearsal, composition or song writing.

Our school ensembles perform within the school, in our specifically designed theatre space, The Arena at BRC, as well as outside the school on a regular basis. Highlights include at The Dart Festival and The Devon County Show, where students performed to an extremely high standard alongside students from local 6th form colleges. Our upcoming school performances are outlined below.

Academic Calendar for Music 2025- 2026:

December 25' Paignton Academy Winter Concert

December 25' GCSE Solo Performances -Recording (Year 10s)

December 25'	GCSE Ensemble Performances -Recording (Year 11s)
March 26'	Whole School Production of High School Musical
April 26'	GCSE Coursework Deadline (Practical Component)
May 26'	Dart Festival, Opportunity for school bands and ensembles to perform on a public stage
June '26.	GCSE Music Appraisal Listening Exam
July 25'	Performing Opportunity at Paignton Academy Celebration Evenings

Parents and carers are provided with online information about all our music events and where their children are participating, a letter will be provided with details of the event and permission forms. Tickets for events are available to buy through the school's website (Parent Pay). Pupil Premium students receive discounts or fully funded places on school trips, and their lunch is provided on the day if they are out of school for an event or trip. This also applies for students on Free School Meals.

<https://www.paigntonacademy.org/parentpay-2>

Parents and carers wishing for their child to get more involved with music outside of the school can view the range of opportunities listed at the Devon and Torbay Music hub.

<https://www.musiceducationhub.org/site>

Other useful links for musical experiences for young people:

Drum Devon

Age 8 and above - no experience necessary:

www.drumdevon.co.uk

Youth Orchestras

Torquay Boys Grammar and Oldway Primary School:

<https://tsdmc.org.uk/information/>

The Jamming Station

This is hub where artists can connect and grow creatively through making music and performing. (ages 13+)

www.jammingstation.co.uk

South Devon Youth Jazz. Totnes

Students need to be able to read music to a reasonable extent and be approximately a Grade 2 technical standard on their instrument (but no need to have taken exams).

www.sdyj.co.uk

Doorstep Arts

Doorstep Arts runs groups across Torbay combining music, dance & drama. Doorstep Arts Courses (ages 7-20)

<https://doorsteparts.co.uk/>

In The Future

Paignton Academy will continue to develop its music provision each academic year with honest reflection and collaborative practice, we will continue to strive to maintain our high-quality music performances, academic success, and extend the opportunities currently offered.

Extra-curricular experiences will continue to include in school music concerts and the annual school production, but as links with external venues and events in the region develop, additional exciting performance opportunities will increase.

Plans for Paignton Academy music curriculum include: continuation of our strings provision and offering further ensembles for violin, viola, cello and double bass, collaborating again with the local music hub and visiting strings teachers.

Funding applications are underway for extending the KS3 music technology curriculum, which will aim to introduce sequencing to years 7 and 8.

The MAC studio on each site currently offers recording facilities for individuals and school ensembles. Students keen to get involved in music technology will be trained up to record and produce their peers for high quality recordings of their own work.