

Kirkbie Kendal School Music Development Plan

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	Sept 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	Sept 2025
Name of the school music lead	Ms Jen Donald
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr Mark Leadbeatter & Mr Andrew Hebson
Name of local music hub	Cumbria
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Cumbria Music Service

Part A: Curriculum music

Music is currently delivered by two music specialists; Ms Jen Donald (Head of Music) and Mr Mark Leadbeatter (Head of Creative & Performing Arts). The music department has two well-equipped music classrooms and three practice rooms with pianos and drum kits, a student instrument store room and office. Music classrooms are equipped with 17 keyboards, guitars, basses, amplifiers, ukuleles, djembes and samba drums. Students have access to laptops in the department. All students studying music have a SoundTrap account for music ICT.

Our KS3 music curriculum has been designed to inspire, engage and challenge students, focussing on performing, composing and listening & appraising, building on prior knowledge and skills at KS2. The school has a number of feeder primary schools, therefore making our aims to build confidence in the four music skills, playing a variety of instruments and singing, learning about different genres/styles of music from different cultures, music theory and developing skills using a DAW (Digital Audio Workstation). Students will gain experience of working individually, pairs, small and large groups. Our curriculum aims to give students an enjoyment of music for life.

KS3

Students receive two hours of music lessons across the fortnight. Students are issued with a project booklet that our lessons are built around. Subject knowledge focusses on keywords, the musical elements, performance and composition tasks, all provided with level descriptors. Further information on topics covered can be found at

<https://www.kirkbiekendal.cumbria.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Music-KS3-Curriculum-Overview.pdf> .

Our lessons include regular Checking For Understanding (CFU), making sure students understand their work and consolidate future learning. Further strategies for students to remember what they have learnt includes thorough effective questioning and explanations. Teachers use a variety of questioning strategies including 'cold calling' and 'no opt out' to ensure all students participate actively during lessons. Modelling of tasks is also key when introducing, supporting and reinforcing students learning as they improve their work.

KS4

Students are taught by both teachers at KS4, with four lessons across the fortnight in year ten, which is increased to five in year eleven. Our KS4 curriculum follows the BTEC Level 2 Tech Award, which consists of three components. Students complete component one in year ten and component two and three in year eleven. Further information on the KS4 curriculum can be found at

<https://www.kirkbiekendal.cumbria.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Music-KS4-Curriculum-Overview.pdf> . Students studying music at KS4 receive a weekly fully subsidised individual 20 minute instrumental lesson.

KS5

Students are taught by both teachers at KS5. Our KS5 curriculum follows the RSL Level 3 Music Practitioners and it allows students to specialise in either performance, music technology or events management for their controlled assessment in year thirteen. The course has a large range of units for students to choose from and to explore areas they are specifically interested in. At current, the year twelve and thirteen classes are combined into one class. Students studying music at KS5 receive a weekly fully subsidised individual 30 minute instrumental lesson. Further information on the KS5 curriculum can be found at <https://www.kirkbiekendal.cumbria.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Music.pdf> .

Part B: Co-curricular music

Outside of classroom lessons, students are given the opportunity to expand their musical experience by taking part in our extra curricular music program. These are free and are open to any year group.

Our extra curricular music opportunities include:

- Chamber Group
- Vocal groups
- Keyboard Club
- Rock Band Club

- Samba Club
- Ks4&5 coursework catch up sessions
- Room booking during breaktime, lunchtime and after school
- Whole school musical at the Brewery Arts Centre
- Annual Prize Giving, Carol Service, Festive Concert, Band Night, performances at local care homes, CAPA evening plus other performances including assemblies and lunchtime concerts.

The department employs 14 self employed and Cumbria Music service instrumental teachers, with around 15 % of all students learning an instrument. These teachers offer weekly individual instrumental lessons on:

- Piano & keyboard
- Voice
- Guitar: Acoustic, electric & bass
- Woodwind: Flute, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon
- Strings: Violin, viola & cello
- Bass: Trumpet & cornet
- Drums

Further performance opportunities are given through these lessons, including graded exams, local performances (e.g. choir competitions, local groups including the Westmorland Youth Orchestra). Any FSM students and those studying music at KS4&5 are offered fully subsidised music lessons.

The school continues to work alongside the Cumbria Music Service and Cumbria Music Hub, developing links with other schools.

Part C: Musical experiences

Similar to previous years, a variety of performance opportunities available to students will include:

- Various lunchtime time and after school extracurricular clubs
- Annual performances including Prize Giving, Carol Service (with whole school singing), Festive Concert, Band Night, assemblies, CAPA evening and the school musical. All these events are free for students to take part in and information about them is shared on the notice board in the music corridor.

Upcoming trips/other events this year include:

- London trip for a theatre tour at the Dominion Theatre watch the Devil Wears Prada musical (with a KKS alumni in the lead role)

- Workshop on musical theatre run by a West End performer
- Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts (LIPA) visit for KS4&5 music students, including workshops, tour and talk on university life.
- Christmas singing at local care homes.
- School bands performing at Kendal Music Festival
- Other performance opportunities shared by the Cumbria Music Service.

In the future

- Increase the amount of singing taking place in KS3 lessons.
- Introduce a KS3 'informal' concert for students to develop performance skills in a safe and supportive environment.
- To increase the uptake of peripatetic staff running extracurricular clubs.