

Music Development Plan Summary:

Nonsuch High School for Girls

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 2026
Name of the school music lead	Ms Shana Patterson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs Maddy McIntyre
Name of local music hub	Sutton Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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 KS3 classes have one 60-minute lesson per week
- GCSE (KS4) have four lessons a fortnight
- A Level (KS5) have eight lessons a fortnight
- At Key Stage 3, students explore a range of musical periods while developing practical skills. The curriculum focused on keyboard proficiency, collaborative music-making, and includes class singing as a core element in every topic.
- There are two main teaching rooms with Midi keyboards and PCs. Notation software and DAWs are used for composition at KS4 and KS5.
- There is a separate A level music study room.

Qualifications

- At GCSE and A Level Music we follow the Edexcel specification.
- Peripatetic staff enter their students for ABRSM, Trinity and Rockschool examinations.

Part B: Extracurricular music and Music tuition

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.

- There are 13 peripatetic staff who are mostly self-employed with 6 teachers from Sutton Music Trust.
- Individual lessons are available for the following instruments;
Piano, violin, cello, guitar, flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, drum kit and voice.
- Pupil Premium students receive individual instrumental lessons with a 50% discount.
- Students can hire instruments from Sutton Music Trust
- We have the Evolve system where students can express interest in a music club. Once they attend, their name is added to the register. These take place mostly in the main music classrooms at lunchtime with Whole School Voices (choir) and Symphony Orchestra after school. Clubs are available to all year groups, with a few reserved exclusively for senior students.
- All clubs are free of charge for all participants
- There are eight practice rooms available for individual/group practice.

Extra-Curricular Clubs 2025-2026

Junior Orchestra

Symphony Orchestra

Whole School Voices

Senior Voices

Vox Celestes (Chamber Choir)

Senior Strings

Indian Ensemble

Wind Ensemble

Nonsuch Party Band

Clubs are reviewed each term, and students are encouraged to create their own ensembles

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.

We have regular performances by instrumentalists in assemblies as well as any special events such as prizegiving and awards assemblies.

There are three whole school concerts per year, one per term. These concerts are opportunity for all the ensembles to perform as well as soloists and smaller ensembles.

The yearly Musician of the Year competition is an excellent opportunity for the more accomplished musicians in all years to work towards a high standard performance.

Our chamber choir, Vox Celestes performs regularly for festivals and concerts in the community.

Students are invited to attend an external live music performance at GCSE and A Level.

There is a bi-annual musical are accompanied by an all-student band.

In the future

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

2025-2027

- Sutton Music Trust – to prepare and attend an external performance in the community
- Opportunity for KS3 instrumentalists to perform in the community
- Incorporate more music technology in the KS3 curriculum