

Music development plan summary: Denefield overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mr P Shaw
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs K Davis
Name of local music hub	The Berkshire Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Berkshire Maestros

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.

By September 2025:

- We will have appointed a new full time teacher of music to ensure full curriculum coverage from Year 7 through to the Sixth Form.
- We will have reinstated a Music curriculum based on the principles of the government's *model music curriculum* with all students in KS3 studying music for one hour a week.
- Students will have the opportunity to study music at both GCSE and A Level in Years 10 and 12.
- Music will have been offered as a GCSE option and an A Level option for September 2025.
- All students in KS3 will have the opportunity to sing and to learn to play instruments in lessons including guitar, keyboards and percussion.

Part B: Co-curricular music

This is about opportunities for students to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how students can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

Co-curricular music will remain strong at Denefield during the academic year 2024-25. We will offer the following opportunities for students in music:

- Rock choir provided by external singing teacher. The choir will focus on modern/pop/rock arrangements with a view to encourage singers, to grow as an ensemble, and perform at events. This will be open to all students.
- Rock Club: an opportunity for guitarists, drummers, and keyboardists to play together. This will encourage the growth of bands/ensembles who can perform at events in and out of school. This will be open to all students.
- Peripatetic music lessons provided by Berkshire Maestros will continue, and will be further promoted in 2024-25.
- Christmas Concert: a festive event with Music (choir, band, ukulele club, GCSE).
- Lunch time Ukelele club.
- The School Musical: A Denefield tradition which will continue in 2024-25, giving students the opportunity to sing, perform and play instruments in front of large audience.
- Music will be further incorporated into the Drama curriculum at KS3, for example through radio play lessons using incidental music. Our Pantomime scheme of work includes – songs and/or incidental music.
- The Year 9 Expressive Arts curriculum will include students studying the music and culture of Spain, Germany and Italy.

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.

In 2024-25 students will have the following opportunities to experience music:

- The Christmas Concert
- The GCSE curriculum concert
- Visit to a concert at the local theatre
- Visit to a London Concert (e.g Royal Opera House)
- The school musical.

In the future

We will ensure that all Denefield students have access to the seven features of high-quality music provision:

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year.

As well as this we will ensure that all Denefield students can:

- Enjoy opportunities as part of a wider creative faculty offer, such as participation in the annual school musical, and providing music for various school events such as the Da Vinci Art Exhibition.
- Enjoy learning with external providers such as Berkshire Maestros.

Further information

At Denefield, in the future, we will be working closely with our local Music Hub, the Berkshire Music Trust (www.berksmusictrust.org.uk), to help us develop an outstanding music curriculum and co-curriculum offer for our students.

Music Hubs are a key part of the governments National Plan for Music Education, and are partnerships that support, deliver and enable access to music education for children and young people within a local area.

The Berkshire Music Trust will have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024.

The Department for Education also publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond school.