

Music development plan summary: Quest Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025- 2026
Date this summary was published	09/03/2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	08/03/2027
Name of the school music lead	Zoe Thompson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Warwickshire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rock School Impact Steel Band

Part A: Curriculum music

At Quest Academy, music is taught as an inclusive and creative subject that supports both musical development and personal growth. Our curriculum is designed to ensure that all learners can access meaningful musical experiences regardless of their starting point, ability level, or additional needs.

Music is delivered across all key stages through a structured programme of practical and theoretical learning. At Key Stage 3, learners follow the **Quest Music Curriculum**, which develops musical understanding progressively through a range of topics including instrumental performance, music technology, world music, and the history of music. These units allow learners to explore performing, listening, composing and understanding music through engaging, practical activities.

Learners regularly develop their skills through activities such as:

- Learning about music from different cultures, genres and historical periods
- Developing instrumental and vocal performance skills
- Creating and producing music using digital technology
- Listening critically and responding to different styles of music
- Collaborating with others through ensemble activities

Music lessons are carefully designed to be accessible for learners with **SEND and SEMH needs**, using practical, engaging activities that minimise barriers to participation. Lessons often prioritise hands-on music making, discussion, and creative exploration to ensure learners remain engaged and successful.

At Key Stage 4, learners currently have the opportunity to study **NCFE Music Technology Level 1**, allowing them to develop skills in digital music production and recording. The school is also exploring the introduction of a **Level 1 Music Performance qualification** to provide learners with additional pathways and opportunities to specialise in performance.

Learners who demonstrate a strong interest in music are also supported in developing instrumental skills and may be guided towards **graded instrumental examinations** where appropriate.

The music department works in partnership with **Warwickshire Music Hub**, supporting the delivery and development of music education within the school.

Music lessons aim not only to develop musical knowledge and skills but also to foster key personal attributes including **confidence, resilience, creativity, and teamwork**.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Quest Academy provides opportunities for learners to engage with music outside of timetabled lessons, allowing them to further develop their skills and confidence in a supportive environment.

Learners who wish to pursue music further can access opportunities such as:

- Individual or small-group instrumental support
- Participation in school bands or small ensembles
- Access to school instruments and equipment for rehearsal and practice
- Opportunities to explore song writing, recording, and music production

These opportunities allow learners to develop their musical interests at their own pace while building important social and communication skills through collaboration with others.

Music activities outside of lessons also provide valuable opportunities for learners to connect with peers from outside their tutor groups and develop friendships through shared musical interests.

Quest offers a wide and varied range of instrument lessons including, keyboard, acoustic guitar, electric guitar, bass guitar, drums, violin, saxophone, flute, ukulele and vocal.

The department is currently working towards expanding co-curricular music opportunities by developing stronger links with external organisations and exploring new initiatives to increase participation.

In the future, the school hopes to establish a stronger culture of group singing through partnerships with organisations such as **Sing Up**, supporting the development of vocal ensembles and whole-school singing opportunities.

Part C: Musical experiences

Music is an important part of the wider life of Quest School, and learners are regularly given opportunities to perform and experience music as part of school events.

Learners take part in **termly performances**, which may include concerts, seasonal performances, or performances within school events. These events allow learners to showcase their musical achievements and develop confidence performing in front of an audience.

Performances may involve:

- Solo performers
- Small ensembles or bands
- Instrumental performances
- Vocal performances

These opportunities provide learners with a sense of pride in their achievements and help them develop important life skills such as confidence, communication and resilience.

Where possible, the school also aims to create opportunities for learners to perform within the **local community**, helping them experience music beyond the classroom and build meaningful connections with others through performance.

In the future

Quest Academy is committed to continuing the development of its music provision to ensure that all learners have access to high-quality musical opportunities.

Planned developments for the music department include:

- Expanding opportunities for learners to take **graded instrumental examinations**
- Continuing to invest in **high-quality musical instruments and music technology equipment**
- Introducing a **Level 1 Music Performance qualification** alongside the existing Music Technology course
- Developing stronger links with organisations such as **Warwickshire Music Hub** and **Sing Up**
- Expanding opportunities for **group singing and vocal ensembles**
- Increasing opportunities for learners to **perform both within school and in the local community**

Music plays a powerful role in supporting learners' social and emotional development. Through music, learners develop confidence, resilience, creativity and a sense of achievement. The department will continue working to ensure that music remains an accessible, inspiring and meaningful part of school life for all learners.