Music development plan summary: Outwood Academy Ormesby 2026/2027

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Jason Mitchell
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Lauren Conlon
Name of local music hub	Tees Valley Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Keith Peberdy - Rock Instruments Kerry Peberdy - Vocals

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.

At Outwood Academy Ormesby, our music curriculum is designed to provide students with a broad, engaging and ambitious musical education, developing their knowledge, skills and appreciation of music across a diverse range of styles, genres and traditions. Students explore Western classical music alongside musical traditions from South America, Africa and Europe, developing an understanding of how music reflects different cultures, histories and societies.

Our curriculum places equal importance on the three key areas of musical learning: performance, composition and appraisal. Through these interconnected disciplines, students develop as confident and independent musicians, learning to perform with increasing accuracy and expression, create and develop their own musical ideas, and analyse and evaluate music from a range of contexts.

Drawing on the principles of the Model Music Curriculum, we incorporate carefully selected listening experiences to broaden students' musical knowledge and deepen their understanding of different genres and traditions. Across Years 7–9, students develop their instrumental skills primarily through keyboard tuition, establishing a secure foundation in musical theory, notation, rhythm, melody and harmony. This is complemented by opportunities to explore a range of additional instruments, including ukulele and djembe.

We also place a strong emphasis on practical, collaborative music-making. Students have opportunities to experience whole-class ensemble performance through our full-class samba percussion set, developing rhythmic accuracy, ensemble awareness, coordination and teamwork. Singing is an integral part of our Key Stage 3 curriculum, with students developing vocal confidence, pitch awareness and an understanding of melody and harmony through a range of individual and group singing activities. This ensures that all students experience music through both instrumental and vocal performance.

Students receive one hour of curriculum music per week at Key Stage 3, providing regular opportunities to develop their musical knowledge and practical skills. Those choosing to continue their studies at Key Stage 4 receive three hours of music per week, allowing for more in-depth study and the development of specialist skills.

To further support individual musical development, we offer small-group instrumental and vocal lessons delivered by specialist visiting music tutors. These provide students with additional opportunities to develop their technique, build confidence and make progress beyond the classroom.

At Key Stage 4, students can continue their musical journey through the Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Music Practice. This vocational qualification builds upon the foundations established at Key Stage 3, allowing students to develop their skills in music performance, creation and production. Through practical projects and independent learning, students gain valuable experience that prepares them for further study, future opportunities and continued engagement with music.

Our overarching aim is to provide a high-quality, inclusive and inspiring music education that enables every student to develop their creativity, confidence and musical understanding, while fostering a genuine appreciation of music that they can carry with them beyond their time at the academy.

Part B: Co-curricular music

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.

At Outwood Academy Ormesby, we are incredibly passionate about creating a vibrant, inclusive and inspiring music department where every student has the opportunity to discover their musical potential, develop their talents and experience the joy of making music. We believe that music should be accessible to everyone, regardless of prior experience or ability, and we strive to provide opportunities for all students to grow in confidence, develop their skills and express themselves creatively.

Alongside our engaging and ambitious curriculum, we offer small-group instrumental and vocal tuition delivered by two visiting music teachers. Students currently have the opportunity to develop their skills in vocals, piano, guitar, drums and bass guitar, receiving specialist teaching and support to help them progress as musicians.

Music at Ormesby extends far beyond the classroom. We are proud to offer a wide range of extracurricular opportunities, with weekly enrichment sessions every Monday after school. These sessions provide students with dedicated time to practise, develop existing skills, learn new instruments and collaborate with other young musicians. Our practice room is also available during break and lunchtime, creating a welcoming space where students can rehearse, experiment and immerse themselves in music.

A particular highlight of our provision is our Show Choir, which brings together students who share a passion for singing and performing. Through developing vocal techniques, exploring a range of musical styles and performing as an ensemble, students build confidence, teamwork and a real sense of belonging. We are also proud to encourage our talented musicians to take part in the Outwood Performer of the Year event, giving them an exciting opportunity to represent the academy, showcase their individual abilities and perform alongside talented young people from across the Outwood family.

Throughout the academic year, students have numerous opportunities to share their talents with others through our annual winter and summer concerts. These performances are fantastic celebrations of the dedication, commitment and progress of our young musicians, bringing together soloists, ensembles and singers to perform for the school and wider community.

Our musical opportunities also include an annual talent show and the production of a full-scale musical, providing students with opportunities both on and behind the stage. Whether performing, singing, playing an instrument or contributing to the production, students can develop valuable creative, collaborative and performance skills while creating memorable experiences.

At Outwood Academy Ormesby, music is about so much more than learning to play an instrument or perform a song. It is about building confidence, discovering passions, creating friendships, developing resilience and providing experiences that students will remember long after they leave us. We are passionate about ensuring that music is a

thriving part of academy life, where every student feels they have a place, a voice and an opportunity to shine.

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.

At Outwood Academy Ormesby, we believe that providing a rich and varied range of musical experiences is essential in developing confident, creative and well-rounded young musicians. We are committed to ensuring that students have opportunities to experience music both within and beyond the classroom, allowing them to perform, collaborate, develop their interests and engage with the wider musical world.

Throughout the academic year, students are given opportunities to showcase their talents through our annual winter and summer concerts. These events bring together students from across all year groups, providing valuable opportunities to rehearse collaboratively, develop performance skills and celebrate their musical achievements in front of the school and wider community.

Alongside our concerts, we organise an annual talent show and produce a full-scale musical theatre production. These experiences allow students to explore different aspects of performance, including singing, instrumental performance, acting and backstage production. They also develop important transferable skills such as teamwork, communication, resilience and confidence, while creating lasting memories and a strong sense of belonging.

We recognise the importance of experiencing live professional music and theatre as part of a broad and ambitious musical education. We therefore organise two subsidised visits each year to local musical theatre productions, available to students across Years 7–11. By heavily subsidising these experiences, we aim to remove financial barriers and ensure that as many students as possible can access and enjoy professional live performances. We also endeavour to keep admission costs to our own school performances to a minimum, or offer free entry wherever possible, enabling families and the wider community to support and celebrate our students' achievements.

Looking ahead, we are keen to broaden our students' musical experiences further by introducing additional opportunities to engage with live music. This includes exploring visits to hear local orchestras and welcoming a wider range of visiting musicians, ensembles and professional performance groups into the academy. These experiences will expose students to different musical styles, traditions and career pathways, helping to broaden their cultural understanding and inspire future musical aspirations.

Ultimately, our aim is to ensure that students at Outwood Academy Ormesby experience music as something that extends far beyond the classroom. Through performing, watching, listening, participating and celebrating music together, we want every student to have the opportunity to discover new interests, develop their talents and build a lasting appreciation of the performing arts.

In the future

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

- Over the coming year, we aim to further develop and strengthen our co-curricular music provision, ensuring students have access to an increasingly broad range of musical experiences and opportunities. A key priority will be expanding our instrumental tuition offer to include a wider variety of instruments, particularly woodwind and brass, alongside our existing provision. This will enable more students to discover new musical interests, develop specialist skills and access instrumental learning that may not otherwise be available to them.

- Our Music Development Plan will continue to place inclusivity, accessibility and equal opportunities at its heart, ensuring that all students, regardless of background, experience or ability, can engage meaningfully with music. We will continue to develop partnerships with local arts organisations, specialist music practitioners and external providers to enhance curriculum delivery, enrich students' cultural experiences and provide further opportunities for musical progression.

- As part of the Outwood Family, we will continue to contribute to and engage with the Trust-wide Music Development Strategy. We will seek to maximise opportunities for collaboration, share effective practice and utilise the resources, expertise and performance platforms available across the Trust. This will include encouraging greater student participation in Trust-wide musical events and performances, raising the profile of music and celebrating the achievements of our young musicians.