

# Music development plan summary: Dormers Wells High School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025–2026
Date this summary was published	2 February 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Soumya Ghosh (Maradona), Director of Music
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Dave McCarthy
Name of local music hub	Ealing Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	The Music in Secondary Schools Trust (MiSST)

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

Curriculum music at Key Stage 3 is taught through a practical, sequenced programme delivered in partnership with the Music in Secondary Schools Trust (MiSST) through the Andrew Lloyd Webber Programme. The curriculum develops pupils' musicianship through listening, performing, composing and evaluating. Pupils build musical literacy (including notation, rhythm, pitch and key musical vocabulary) alongside confident performance habits and ensemble discipline.

### MiSST Andrew Lloyd Webber Programme

Through the programme, pupils learn an orchestral instrument, perform as soloists and in ensembles, sing regularly, and develop improvisation and composition skills. The programme supports progression into Key Stage 4, including GCSE Music, and wider musical participation.

Website- <https://www.misst.org.uk/curriculum>

Time allocation (KS3):

- Year 7: one timetabled lesson per week (typically 60 minutes).
- Year 8: one timetabled lesson per week (typically 60 minutes).
- Year 9: one timetabled lesson every two weeks (typically 60 minutes). Musical development is sustained through MiSST instrumental learning, rehearsal routines, ensembles and weekend provision where applicable.

Within curriculum time, pupils regularly perform (individually and in groups) on their instrument, create compositions, and develop listening skills through a wide range of musical styles and traditions. Teaching is adapted so that pupils with SEND can participate fully, including through careful scaffolding, varied roles in ensemble work, and appropriate adjustments to resources and instruments.

Resources:

Each student receives an orchestral instrument for 3 years under the Andrew Lloyd Webber MiSST programme. The department has a large teaching space with acoustic piano, keyboards and an electric piano, alongside adjoining practice rooms. Pupils also have access to music technology resources, including a recording studio and classroom computers with composition and notation software, supporting progression into KS4.

### **Part B: Co-curricular music**

Co-curricular music provides pupils with regular opportunities to sing, play instruments and perform beyond lesson time. Pupils can extend their musical learning through a range of clubs, ensembles and instrumental pathways.

Music tuition and instrumental pathways:

- Instrumental tuition opportunities are available for pupils, including orchestral instruments as part of our partnership work with MiSST.
- Instrument loans and tracking systems support regular practice at home.

Ensembles, clubs and groups:

- School Orchestra (open to pupils with appropriate readiness; parts are scaffolded to support inclusion).
- Piano/Keyboard club.
- Strings Club for different levels
- Flute Club
- Clarinet Club
- Choir
- School Production

### **Weekend provision (MiSST Saturday Music School – West London, hosted at DWHS):**

- The school hosts the MiSST Saturday Music School (West London) which delivers lessons in Double Bass, Cello, Bassoon, Oboe, Tuba, Trombone, Trumpet and French Horn, extending instrumental learning and ensemble development beyond the school week.
- MiSST-owned instruments are either taken home by the students or stored securely on site for larger instruments like the double bass, clearly labelled and allocated using an instrument-code tracking system.

### **How pupils make progress beyond the curriculum:**

- Clear progression routes from beginner participation to ensemble membership and performance opportunities.
- Regular rehearsal routines, individual practice opportunities on site (where available), and guided home practice expectations for instrument loan holders.
- Where appropriate, pupils are signposted to MiSST Fast Track examinations and wider Music Hub opportunities.

### **Charging and remissions:**

- Currently, clubs, tuition and loaned instruments are provided free of charge to pupils at Dormers Wells High School.

### **Part C: Musical experiences**

Musical experiences are planned to ensure pupils regularly perform, listen and participate in shared musical events that build confidence and community.

Planned musical experiences include:

- End of term performances as part of celebration assemblies
- School production involvement (for example: Aladdin), including performance and supporting roles.
- Opportunities to experience live music at least once a year, through visiting performers, workshops or trips (subject to availability and funding).
- Talent show / Battle of the bands to be hosted during the Summer Term

How pupils get involved:

- Pupils can participate through curriculum performance work, clubs and ensembles, auditions (where appropriate) and open-sign-up opportunities. Many events also provide audience experiences for whole year groups.

## **In the future**

Planned developments for 2026–2028 include:

- Increasing student engagement and curiosity in the orchestral culture and its relevance in contemporary music in various media such as film, video games, etc.
- Expanding participation in choir/vocal ensemble and orchestra, with targeted recruitment and inclusive scaffolding for disadvantaged pupils and pupils with SEND.
- Further developing the MiSST Saturday Music School partnership, offering the students who are learning instruments like the Bassoons, Oboes, Trumpets, Trombones, Tubas, Cellos, and Double Basses an opportunity to be part of orchestras in DWHS as well as the MiSST Community.
- Increasing opportunities for pupils to experience live music through partnerships and planned visits.

## **Further information**

Local Music Hub and partner information:

- MiSST: [www.misst.org.uk](http://www.misst.org.uk)

\* Ealing Music Service <https://ealingmusicservice.com/>

Contact:

- School office: [020 8566 6446](tel:02085666446)