



Millfield School



Music Development Plan

(Version 3 _01.07.26)

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2027
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mr P. Mitchell
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local Music Hub	Lancashire Music Hub

1. Overall music provision – how do you feel about your offer, and where do you want it to go in general moving forwards? Your thoughts here should tie into other areas further down.

Current Status	The music curriculum encourages learners to progress individually and as part of a group through teamwork. Students learn through both practical and theoretical tasks. In Key Stage 3, there is a strong focus on creativity, leadership, evaluation, and teamwork. All assessments align with the National Curriculum Programmes of Study and take place at the end of each half term. Assessment formats include practical work, recordings, listening tasks, and written work. Key vocabulary is introduced in all Schemes of Work and forms the foundation for learning in every topic. These key terms are built upon year by year. Opportunities to explore numeracy through musical structures and rhythm are embedded across the curriculum. Students also gain experience in playing instruments and developing vocal skills. Creativity is embedded through exploration of how music is created using interrelated dimensions (musical elements). In Key Stage 4, students build upon creativity, music technology, performance, and production skills to deepen their subject-specific knowledge and terminology. Independent learning and teamwork are key to progress, particularly in Vocational Awards qualifications. Assessments are carried out in line with the exam board.
Future Developments	- Continue to develop ICT Music Suite with the addition of Charanga's YUMU online music composition platform (DAW). - Further increase uptake of instrumental lessons through targeted marketing, high-quality musical experiences, strengthened primary school partnerships, and engaging in school workshops. - Continue to broaden and develop the recently established ensembles, including the Millfield Orchestra, Brass Group and KS3 Band Club. - Expand music technology provision through Lancashire Music Service including staff workshops and training. - Year 8 lessons now weekly. Continue to refine and adapt sequence of learning. - Continue to strengthen partnerships with primary schools, the LMS Music Hub, and local venues to foster a wider musical culture by hosting concerts and events through which all stakeholders are involved where necessary.

	This year included primary performing arts day, Primary Recorder Day run by LMS, Artsmark project SAMBA with a joint performance at the Winter Gardens. New Woodwind/Brass joint concert planned with LMS for 26/27. - Develop strong links between Millfield and feeder primaries, placing National Plan for Music at the heart of musical development.
Timescale and Responsibility	2024-2027
Resources Necessary	Resourced music technology facilities (DAW - Digital Music Workstation). Continued support from LMS hub. External sponsorship to support collaboration projects. Increased year 8 teaching time to fulfil teaching requirement (1 lessons per week per KS3 year) Continued subject specific CPD.

2. Curriculum – Music that is taught as a timetabled slot in the classroom on a regular basis.

Current Status	Years 7 and 8 students receive weekly, hour-long music lessons, while students in Years 9 receive one hour per fortnight. The schemes of work are carefully sequenced to progressively develop musicianship, knowledge, and challenge, with KS3 programmes emphasizing singing, listening, composing, and performing. The department is staffed by a Head of Music, a Performing Arts teacher, and four specialist peripatetic staff providing individual instrumental lessons in brass, woodwind, guitar, keyboard, strings and vocals. Early misconceptions and baseline understanding are addressed in KS3 to provide a solid foundation for progression into KS4, where music technology is being introduced with access to digital audio workstations and live production.
Future Developments	- Continue to expand music technology provision into years 7 and 8 through the Music Hub by integrating access to YUMU Studio, a free digital audio workstation.

	- Strengthen partnerships with external organisations to enhance awareness of careers in the music industry. 26/27 will see coloration with BBC and Lytham Film Festival including workshops and Q and A sessions. - Introduce world music into the Key Stage 3 curriculum to broaden students' cultural and musical understanding. - Increase the number of students choosing Music as a Key Stage 4 option through improved curriculum engagement musical experiences and promotion.
Timescale and Responsibility	2024 onwards
Resources Necessary	Lancashire Music Hub provision

3. Individual/Small Group instrumental teaching – this is likely to be provided by external specialists (Music Service, private teacher(s), or another private company).	
Current Status	Millfield hosts the Wyre Music Centre (Lancashire Hub), which now offers a beginner Brass group open to local primary pupils and adult participants, an intermediate string ensemble for students working at Grades 2–8 and a Recorder Rebels class which started in 2026. In addition, small group lessons in Brass, guitar, strings, percussion, keyboard, and vocals are delivered weekly, each lasting 20 minutes. All Year 7 students receive fully funded instrumental lessons, providing every pupil the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. Students in Years 7–11 also have access to subsidised lessons, with additional support available through Pupil Premium funding. The ongoing collaboration with the Lancashire Music Hub is further demonstrated by the school receiving approximately £1,000 in free Brass lesson funding during the 2025–26 academic year. This will run again through the LMS secondary upgrade initiative year on year.
Future Developments	- Continue to increase uptake of individual/Small Group instrumental teaching, especially among SEND and DA students by providing DA financial support for instrumental lessons and Year 7 students a free half term of taster instrumental lessons - Broaden range of lessons (including vocal and keyboard) through the Music Hub with exceptional instrumental teachers. - Expand number of ensembles and accessibility by purchasing flexible ability sheet music. - Increase performance opportunities through calendared concerts.

	- Deepen collaboration with the Lancashire Music Hub through the 'Lead School' initiative. Continue to deliver presentations on successes to other regional schools.
Timescale and Responsibility	2024-2027
Resources Necessary	- Continued Year 7 instrumental funding - DA subsidised lessons - Peripatetic staff (instrumental specialists)

4. Teacher CPD – how are you going to upskill your teaching staff? CPD can be provided by you as music lead, your local hub, or another external provider.

Current Status	All staff engage in Continuous Professional Learning (CPL) through the school's Dynamic Learning Community (DLC), and the department has been a Music Mark member since 2023, enabling access to CPD via the Music Mark platform. Additional subject-specific CPD is gained through the annual Lancashire Music Secondary Conference. Schemes of work are fully aligned with the 2026–2027 timetables, and KS4 staff regularly attend targeted CPD events, including Eduqas Vocational Tech Awards workshops and examiner report sessions. Staff also benefit from ongoing local CPD opportunities provided by the Lancashire Music Hub. Furthermore, the department has begun its journey towards achieving the Artsmark Award and submitted its journey in July 2026 following 12 months of events and strategic planning.
Future Developments	- Targeted coaching for all staff to ensure high-quality teaching and excellent student outcomes. - Promote independence, resilience, and learning habits, particularly for SEND/DA students. - Improve SEND provision through consistent high expectations and adaptive teaching. - Broaden curriculum to include diversity and equality themes.
Timescale and Responsibility	2024 onwards
Resources Necessary	- Ongoing subscriptions (Music Mark, Artsmark). - Subject-specific CPD. - External practitioner training.

	- Develop local secondary music teachers' network.
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5. Co-curricular music – activities that are in addition to but compliment your classroom offer (besides instrumental lessons). These can be in the form of bands, choirs, or other groups. They may be led by school staff, music service teachers, other private company teachers or individuals.	
Current Status	Students at Millfield have access to ensembles including Brass group, Choir, String group and Rock band ensembles, Orchestra and technology group. Over the course of the year, the Performing Arts Department provides students with 24 performance opportunities including at the Winter Gardens, Blackpool and at important school events such as Certificate evening. Millfield organises the 'Celebration of Music' annually at the Winter Gardens which includes a variety of performances from over 18 schools from across Fylde, Wyre and Blackpool including both primary and secondary schools.
Future Developments	- Increase participation, particularly among SEND and DA students through subsidised funding. - Continue to develop and expand more ensembles. - Strengthen community and agency links. - Expand 'Celebration of Music' participation to attract more Year 7 students with instrumental experience. To collaborate with local primary schools with the support of LMS to deliver a musical WCIT session culminating in a performance at the Winter Gardens 2027.
Timescale and Responsibility	- 2024 onwards
Resources Necessary	- Continued funding and admin support. - Departmental funding to acquire further music repertoire. - Additional specialist teaching staff to lead ensembles.

6. Pupil Premium student engagement – how are you encouraging DA students to engage with music? Are DA funds used to subsidise individual music lessons and/or other activities?	
Current Status	Pupil Premium students currently receive subsidised instrumental lessons.
Future Developments	Continue to increase the number of DA students accessing instrumental lessons and co-curricular activities.
Timescale and Responsibility	2024-2027
Resources Necessary	- DA funding. - Support from SEND department. - Virtual school funding for DA students. - Access the Lancashire Music Inclusion provision.

7. Engagement with your local Music Hub – your hub is there to support you with your offer. How is your school engaging with the hub, and how can you develop this relationship for the good of your pupils?	
Current Status	The school employs all peripatetic staff through the Lancashire Music Hub, ensuring that all instructors are fully quality-assured. The Wyre Music Centre is delivered in partnership with Millfield School and is overseen by Mr. Mitchell, Lead Practitioner of Teaching and Learning (Performing Arts). Millfield actively engages with all professional development and funding opportunities offered by the hub and maintains regular communication with area managers to support the ongoing development of music education within the school. During the 2023/24 academic year, the school hosted a Brass ‘playday’ event, which provided the foundation for the creation of the Wyre Music Centre’s Brass Blasters ensemble. As a result of this initiative, several students began Brass lessons at Millfield in September 2024. In addition, talented musicians are identified and encouraged to join intermediate and advanced county ensembles, including the Lancashire Schools and Students Symphony Orchestra. In April 2025, Lancashire Music Hub designated Millfield’s Music Department as a ‘Lead Music School’ in recognition of its high-quality music provision. This role involves collaborating with the Hub to design and deliver continuing

	professional development (CPD) and provide peer-to-peer support for schools across the region.
Future Developments	• Develop music technology opportunities by using the software Ableton Live a free digital audio workstation. • Develop co-curricular opportunities – hosting ‘instrumental playdays’ at Millfield (2024-2027 focused on brass, woodwind and strings) • Continue collaboration with Lancashire Music Hub and community arts.
Timescale and Responsibility	2024 onwards
Resources Necessary	Continue to work with Lancashire Music Services with annual reviews.

8. Links with external organisations

Current Status	Millfield Music Department is a member of Music Mark. In November 2025, Millfield hosted the Fleetwood Music and Arts Festival, with over 200 students from local schools and across Lancashire in attendance. Further community links were developed in 2026 when the school hosted an evening concert by the Blackpool Symphony Orchestra, who kindly agreed to sponsor a gifted and talented musician through free instrumental lessons for one year. Over £2,000 has been raised this year to support Millfield's music initiatives, including: • £1,200 – The Russell Haldane Trust (Artsmark Samba Project) • £1,000 – Lancashire Lead School for Music (Musical Equipment) • £300 – Blackpool Symphony Orchestra (Music Scholar) Careers - A masterclass and careers talks will be delivered by the Lancashire Film Network at the Lytham International Film Festival in 2027.
Future Developments	- Further links to be explored through BBC Philharmonic education and Royal Liverpool Philharmonic education programme .

	- Develop careers links with Lancaster University/ Blackpool Sixth Form to support student progression and awareness of post-16 opportunities in music and the creative industries. - Host local network of secondary music teachers to share teaching and learning good practice, standardisation, and curriculum development.
Timescale and Responsibility	2024 onwards
Resources Necessary	NA

9. Performance opportunities – what opportunities do your pupils have to perform? Do they have a chance to perform outside of the school environment as well as inside? How can you develop this to encourage participation and progression?

Current Status	All students have the opportunity to perform in school and the wider area including: Autumn term - Open Evening - Certificate Evening - Presentation Evening - Millfield's Got Talent - Carol Concerts - Wyre Music Centre Christmas Concert - Poulton Lights Switch on. Spring term - Celebration of Music – Winter Gardens - Performing Arts Showcase - School Production Summer term - Summer Sounds 2026 Concert - Primary Performances
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	- Thornton Gala/ Poulton Gala - Wyre Music Centre Summer Concert Furthermore, concert and performances are put on at the end of each school term to celebrate achievements.
Future Developments	- Collaborate with Wyre Music Centre and Lancashire Music ensembles. - St John's Church – community project - Music evening 11th November - Host LSSO performances. - Host community musical events and ensembles.
Timescale and Responsibility	2024 onwards
Resources Necessary	Continued subsidised lessons for pupils and DA lesson funding

Millfield School's Music Development Plan is a working document. Provision for curriculum lessons, instrumental tuition, co-curricular activities, and performance opportunities will continue to evolve in response to demand and changing circumstances.

Updated: 1 July 2026.