

Music development plan summary: Acle Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	28/11/2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	28/11/2026
Name of the school music lead	Anna Gilbert
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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 Acle Academy the music curriculum is underpinned by the academy's intent of Personal Responsibility, Relate, Independent, Discover and Ethos values to support all students in becoming musicians.

In Key Stage 3 all students study fortnightly (weekly in Year 8) hour lesson. For those who opt to study music in Key Stage 4, there a 5 lessons per 2 weeks.

Our Key Stage 3 curriculum has been designed around the Model Music Curriculum recommendations published by the DfE in March 2021. The curriculum supports the development of student's theoretical and practical musical knowledge and skills. Students are given a range of opportunities to learn to sing or play an instrument through individual, paired or group performances.

Throughout our KS3 curriculum, students develop their confidence and skills in listening, performance and composition. Topics covered include:

- Chords and Riffs
- Musical Elements
- Reggae and Blues
- Band Lab
- Classical Composers
- Film Music

All students follow the same inclusive curriculum, which is personalised for all students including those with SEND through a range of mechanisms including:

- Carefully selected resources and instruments
- The use of technology is incorporated to support learning where appropriate
- Modelling practical examples
- A strategically planned curriculum that enables students to develop musical knowledge and skills over time
- Strategies to support students to remember knowledge and skills over time.

We encourage students to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms. We build upon this through a variety of approaches including video clips of performances, listening to pieces of music, developing visual word banks and symbols as well as offering challenge to build resilience and determination.

At Key Stage 4 students who opt to study music further can gain a qualification in BTEC Award in Music Practice which enables them to build upon the knowledge and skills they have gained in Key Stage 3.

Part B: Extra-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 Acle Academy, we offer range of instrumental and vocal tuition in addition to timetabled classroom music lessons. These include stringed instruments as well as guitar, drums and piano.

Cost per 20-minute lesson is £14.00, terms have between 10-13 lessons, free rent of an instrument can be arranged. Pupils in receipt of pupil premium are eligible for 50% reduction in cost.

The academy works with experienced tutors which are sourced through the Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub.

The music department is a thriving community at lunchtimes where like-minded individuals form lasting friendships through a love of music and the academy has four equipped practice spaces which students can use during the school day.

Extra-curricular clubs are also available to enrich students' learning such as choir practice, keyboard and drumming clubs.

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.

- Students get opportunities to take part in performance at the academy and as part of music events in the local community.
- The music department also collaborates with other departments in the school production.
- Musical opportunities feature school production, carol concert, annual Acle's Got Talent, Play-Produce-Promote, primary school performance, Spring Concert, Royal Norfolk Show, song writing workshop.

In the future

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

- The music department aims to strengthen links to support Music Career development, particularly with 6th form colleges in the locality, including links to Access Creative College, Wymondham High Sixth Form and East Norfolk Sixth Form College.
- The enrichment offer has aspirations to stretch and challenge all participants through performing and choir opportunities, increasing student leadership roles within a music setting.