

MUSIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2025-2027

1. Vision and Context

Music is an essential part of school life and takes its place as part of our broad and balanced curriculum offer. We value the expression, creativity and collective endeavours the subject offers our students. Our teaching takes place in two specialist classrooms and events take place in the well-resourced school hall.

2. Curriculum

At **Key Stage 3 (Years 7-9)**, Music at Tarporley High School & Sixth Form College is designed to develop students as performers, composers and critical listeners. The curriculum emphasises learning *in, through and about music*, building musical knowledge alongside creativity, confidence and practical skills. Students develop instrumental and vocal performance, composition, listening and appraisal skills while exploring a broad range of musical styles and traditions. The department also places a strong emphasis on teamwork, resilience, communication and cultural understanding. Enrichment opportunities, including ensembles, choirs, workshops and performances, support students in applying their learning beyond the classroom.

We ensure all students access musical experiences as part of the school enrichment offer during the school day. These include visiting performances, the Year 7 Carol Service as well as the Elf Run charity music event.

At **Key Stage 4**, students may opt for the **Eduquas GCSE Music** course. The programme develops musical creativity through performance, composition and analysis. Students study four areas: the Western Classical Tradition (1650-1910), Popular Music, Traditional Music, and Western Classical Music since 1910. Assessment consists of a listening and appraising examination (40%), performance as a soloist and/or ensemble musician (30%), and two composition projects (30%). Students are encouraged to explore a wide variety of musical styles while developing confidence, ICT skills and independent musicianship

At **Key Stage 5**, we offer **A Level Music** course, which provides advanced study in performance, composition and musical analysis. Students explore major periods of music history including Baroque concertos and Romantic piano music, alongside wider listening, analysis and contextual study. Assessment comprises appraising music, performance and composition. The course aims to develop highly skilled, independent musicians with strong analytical, creative and performance abilities, preparing students for higher education and a wide range of musical pathways.

For Sixth Form students, their work within the Music Department extends to leadership roles among ensembles and many students who do not take A Level Music continue their association with the department.

3. Co-Curricular Music

Tarporley High School & Sixth Form College offers a rich extra-curricular programme designed to broaden students' experiences beyond the classroom and develop confidence, leadership and cultural awareness. The school views enrichment as a key part of education, helping students become well-rounded, responsible young people.

Music is a particular strength of our extra-curricular offer, with opportunities for students to participate in choirs, string, jazz and woodwind ensembles, alongside concerts, productions, recitals and the annual Tarporley Young Musician of the Year competition. Students can also benefit from workshops, instrumental tuition and educational visits to concerts and musical venues. Crucially, there are a range of groups and ensembles available to all students during the school day.

Two key events in the year are the School Production and the Creative Showcase Evening in which Music partners with Drama and the Creative Arts to create collective endeavour and celebration of talent.

Students are offered peripatetic music lessons and this is extended free of charge to disadvantaged students.

4. Key Development Priorities 2025-2028

- Increase enrichment clubs by offering more opportunities in form time.
- Protect the Head of Music's time during form time to facilitate open-access clubs.
- Establish a calendar of events that ensures a range of students and abilities can take part in collective music-making within the core enrichment in-school offer.
- Monitor the attendance and participation of key groups in peripatetic music lessons, ongoing clubs as well as performance and productions.
- Ensure Music becomes an established part of the transition journey from Year 6 to Year 7.