Music development plan summary: Etone College

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026/27
Date this summary was published	01/09/26
Date this summary will be reviewed	01/07/27
Name of the school music lead	Hannah Kaye-Shepheard
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Warwickshire Music
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.

All KS3 students at Etone College receive one hour of Music per week and lessons follow the National Curriculum. In planning the curriculum, the Model Music Curriculum has been considered alongside the National Curriculum. Further details on the website are here: Curriculum – Music – Etone College Details on SEND provision are here: SEND-Information-report-202312.pdf (etonecollege.co.uk)

In lessons all students frequently sing and have access to keyboards. In class lessons students also have access to use ukuleles, guitars, drum kits, djembes and a range of tuned and untuned percussion; teachers are also music specialists and, if a student brings their instrument from home, they are able to translate the curriculum to a specialist instrument.

Students learn a range of music ranging from Baroque to 20th Century in the Classical Western Canon, a range of World Music as well as looking at 20-21st century popular music forms such as Blues, Jazz, Rock and Pop.

At KS4 students follow the Edexcel BTEC Tech award Level 2 in Music Practice and there are classes in both year 10 and 11. Results for this course are above national average and, in paricular SEND students do significantly better than national average. Students have access to music specific technology and software in order to access the course fully. Year 9 Pathways – Etone College

Students who take peripatetic lessons with the music service have the option to complete instrumental grades with their teachers. Where students complete these exams with external providers, there is a culture of students sharing their results with the school allowing for praise opportunities, even if completed outside of school.

There are also practise room spaces in both lower school and 6th form to enable individual practise and small group rehearsals.

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.

Alternative titles for Part B could be 'Extra-curricular music' or 'Music tuition, choirs and ensembles'.

All 7-10 students are encouraged to complete the application for the Music Blue Peter Badge as an optional additional homework task. The badge helps students to articulate their passions for listening to music as well as their enjoyment of performing music.

Peripatetic lessons are offered by the Warwickshire music service and lessons take place either on a one to one basis or in small groups. Lessons are provided by direct parental pay to the music service and lessons so lessons are decided on a "by demand" basis. At present the school has a piano, violin, drum and a guitar teacher, with intention on allocation of teachers as parents indicate demand. PP students are eligible for a discount on lessons. Details on costing are available here: Warwickshire Music Hub

Warwickshire music also provides instrument loads for beginners as part of their provision. They have also loaned the school a high quality Clavinova and a Double Bass to help encourage students to use these instruments. Students are able to complete graded music exams from a range of exam boards within their peripatetic lessons.

In addition, Etone College Sixth Form is also the location of the North Warwickshire Music Centre. Additional instrumental lessons in a wider range of instruments including woodwind and brass as well as groups including two orchestras are available to our students (groups are available to join for free).

The school has a well established SATB choir open to all year groups without audition. The choir is open to all students. The group meets for 1h15 every week, with additional rehearsals when approaching events. The choir has been working on broadening it's remit from typical pop songs and has also been learning World Music and pieces from the Western Classical canon. The choir has worked in recent years with Armonico Consort who have provided tuition for the students and CPD specific to choral direction for the staff. As part of this programme of support, the Etone Choir has performed at the Royal Albert Hall in London and Coventry Catherdral as well as at other events. Armonico Consort

The school runs a small orchestra on Thursdays afterschool targeted at those currently studying or have previously had instrumental lessons.

There is a strong culture of Rock bands in the school. To support this, there is also a rehearsal schedule for the practice rooms for KS4 and KS5 students, both in main school and in the 6th Form. KS3 students are able to rehearse in the main music room

with teacher support at break times. For more advanced learners there is Thursday Open Rehearsal where students are able to rehearse in smaller self directed groups. There are also regular rehearsals at break time focussed on allowing KS4 and KS5 students facilities to rehearse/intervention pertaining to qualifications studied. KS5 students have access to the 6th form practice rooms for independent study/rehearsal.

In 2026-27 there will be also 6th form musical groups (self-directed by the students and with teacher mentoring).

There is also a school musical taking place (Shrek The Musical) taking place and music is a part of this production. Students performing on stage have auditioned for their roles and students in musical accompaniment or back stage roles are invited to contribute if they are interested in supporting the production.

There is also a Talent show – both a Trust wide competition and a school based competition. Auditions are open to all students in all disciplines; on securing a place in the final performances, students are allocated rehearsal time on the extracurricular timetable. Students entered into the Trust event will have the opportunity to perform in a professional venue and also in a stadium venue.

Students at Etone have also been offered extra sessions for revision and consolidation of skills in the lead up to completing externally examined courses. This has included previously workshop sessions working on compositional skills, music production and recording, as well as developing listening and appraisal skills.

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.

Alternative titles for Part C could be ‘Musical events’ or ‘Musical performances’.

There are a wide range of musical experiences available to students at Etone College. All students in all years are welcome to perform at the events listed – some events require an audition to take part. Where events are ticketed, there is a concessions option available for all students.

Etone Performance Events 2025-26

- Open Evening – Choir sings in between headteacher speeches
- MacMillan morning – Musical performances (hall) – Students performing and Y7 students invited to watch the performance with their parents. Charity event – attendance by donation.
- Trust Choir Day –
- Staff Band for Trust – Staff perform and KS4/KS5 students are invited to watch the final rehearsal by the teachers. Free.
- Matrix Trust Battle of the Bands Students selected to perform and students performing are also in the audience. Free.
- Solihull Harvest Festical – Etone Choir performing “The Armed Man” as part of the Blitz commemoration.
- St Nicolas Service - – A community service including performances from local amateur and professional musicians. Students are both performing and able to watch the performances. Charity event – attendance by donation.
- North Warwickshire Music Service Concerts – Termly event. Students from all schools and the music centre in North Warwickshire invited to perform in a concert to showcase their performances to the local community and to students.
- Mince Pies and Carols morning – Students performing and year 8 students invited to watch with their parents. Charity event – attendance by donation.
- Christmas Concert date– students performing and invited to watch. Tickets for sale.
- Christmas assembly performances – musical performances to an audience of students in all years. Free.
- School Production - students performing and invited to watch. Primary school performance for local feeders.
- Matrix Trust Student Awards night – Millennium Point students selected by audition to perform and performers and parents invited to watch. Free.
- Trust Sports Day @Alexander Stadium – Students selected by audition to perform in a stadium venue as part of the Sports day celebrations. Free.
- Talent Show – Students selected by audition and students invited to watch with families in the audience. Attendance by ticket.
- Big Tea Event - Students performing and KS3 students invited to watch with their parents. Charity event – attendance by donation.

In the future

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

Pupil voice indicates, music is a popular subject at Etone College and the intention is to grow the provision.

As the school grows it has become necessary to appoint an additional music teacher and this has increased capacity, allowing us to run courses at KS4-5. This will also allow the school to consolidate and broaden the provision at the school. The curriculum will be reviewed in the next 12 months to refine the provision already offered.

The aims are:

- To maintain the musical events already established as annual events (including MacMillan Morning, Mince Pies and Carols, Christmas Concert, Talent Show
- To make the School Production an annual event with a performing arts team.
- As more students indicate interest for instrumental lessons with the Warwickshire Music service, their direct pay system will allow them to allocate teachers to us for the specialist instruments.
- To arrange opportunities to visit professional performances (previous years visits to Symphony Hall Birmingham) including a wide range of musical performances.
- To maintain the work Armonico Consort and AC Academies (this partnership lead to the Choir performance at the Royal Albert Hall 2024).
- To develop links with post 16 and post 18 career and study options (previous visit to SCCB)

Further information (optional)

For further details about Warwickshire Music: https://www.warwickshiremusichub.org/