



Music development plan summary: Bradford Forster Academy

Overview

| Detail | Information |
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| Academic year that this summary covers | 2024-25 |
| Date this summary was published | September 2024 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | September 2025 |
| Name of the school music lead | Emily Simpson |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | Diane Whitehead |
| Name of local music hub | Bradford 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 students 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 students and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our students’ music education.

Part A: Curriculum music

At Bradford Forster Academy, all students in KS3 have 2 x 60 minute lessons in each two week cycle. They can then choose music as an option at the end of year 9 to commence in year 10. We currently have one music class in each of years 10 and 11. Please see the curriculum section of the website to see what students are taught in each year group.

Part B: Co-curricular music

At Bradford Forster Academy, we offer peripatetic instrumental lessons in Strings (violin, cello), Brass (trumpet, trombone), Woodwind (clarinet, saxophone, flute), Drums, Guitar (Acoustic, Electric, Bass). These take place wither one-to-one or in small



groups dependant on ability. Each lesson lasts for 20 minutes and students are encouraged to take a graded exam where appropriate. We use a variety of exam boards including Rock School and ABRSM where appropriate. Students have lessons during the day and come out of curriculum time to take part, this is done on a weekly Rotation. Lessons are offered for free for the year and subsidised by the school. This enables all students to have the opportunity to take extra lessons, regardless of parental income.

Students of all abilities are encouraged to take part in extra-curricular music. We offer extra-curricular music clubs including urban choir, steel pan, band rehearsal, individual practice. In addition, the music department is open (where possible) at break, lunch times and after school for students to rehearse.

Students perform at community events such as the Summer Fair and Winter Festival.

Part C: Musical experiences

This academic year our students will have the opportunity to perform at the Bradford School's Prom held at St Georges Hall, Bradford. Also BDAT Be There, Other planned events include a Talent Show, a music showcase concert in the Spring Term and the annual Musical Show (Grease the Musical). Students will also perform at the End of year awards evening and summer fair.

Students will have the opportunity to showcase their skills during breaktime performances.

Some of our GCSE students will perform at the annual Leavers Awards Evening at Bradford Cathedral.

BDAT Be There also enables all of year 7 to go and be an audience for the performance.

We aim to promote the local Music Support service and direct students in the direction of the music hub in Shipley.

We offer theatre trips. Blood Brothers, An Inspector Calls, Pinocchio and War Horse are booked for this year so far. These are usually to theatres in Bradford and Leeds. These are open to all year groups (unless age appropriate). These allow students a chance to be an audience member.



Where possible we meet students at the theatre to cut out transport costs. We do have a hardship fund in school that students who meet certain requirements can access.

In the future

We are currently looking at increasing the opportunity for students to attend music concerts and hope to introduce this in the current academic year.

We are looking at making sure there is a music sharing each term showcasing what learnt in lesson and from Peripatetic lessons.

Useful links

Music curriculum:

[Music | Bradford Forster Academy](#)

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Look at [Home - Bradford Music Education Hub \(bradfordmusiconline.co.uk\)](#) to see if they have a plan and other useful advice.