

Music Development Plan

Laleham Gap School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	26/11/2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	25/11/2026
Name of the school music lead	Alia Short
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music	Katie Reeves
Name of local music hub	Kent Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	KSENT TELT

Part A: Curriculum music

The Music department is a creative space where there are a range of instruments for students to both explore and appreciate. Students are offered a timetable of lessons in curriculum time that enable them to access the use of a range of instruments whilst also having a third of the year based around music technology units. These allow the students to create and explore the use of technology to expand their skills. Students from EYFS until the end of Key Stage 3 have weekly music lessons delivered by a music specialist and supported by a specialist music teaching assistant. The lesson time ranges from fifteen to fifty minutes depending on the age range. Students are encouraged to contribute to school life and given performance opportunities both in and outside of school.

Laleham Gap School has invested in the development of music as a subject as it remains one of the newer subjects on the curriculum here but there has been a successful run of three years where students have opted to continue to study music at Key Stage 4. The qualification offered is Trinity College's Arts Award and there are options for students to access Level 1 and Level 2 work depending on their ability and the size of the group.

The Key Stage 4 students can access the Bronze Arts Award which gives them the chance to access music both as a listener as well as having creation or performance opportunities. There are a select number of students who can then work towards their Silver Arts Award.

For our students at Laleham Gap, enabling students to embrace music as part of their lives and for wellbeing has been a big step forward. Throughout the department there are discussions and displays to reflect the range of job roles and careers that can be

found within the music industry that do not solely link to being a performer and this course helps to support this and can extend their teamwork and leadership skills.

Music as a subject has allowed for Laleham Gap students to build resilience and confidence in their general skills. They have a healthy participation rate in music as a practical subject which can support in other subjects especially those with a presentation aspect to them. Music can also support problem solving, attention and memory retention which are beneficial for areas such as maths and science. Students are given the opportunity to participate and create work, regardless of their experience or skill level and music is an accepting subject where students can feel free in their creativity, whilst also learning some of the concepts behind the art form. The hope would be that our students can leave Laleham Gap School knowing that they have achieved and created something even if they choose not to pursue music.

Part B: Extra-curricular music

At Laleham Gap School, students have the opportunity to join any of the out of class clubs. These include singing clubs, a music technology club which combines skills learnt in lessons but also extends these to create compositions and performances either solely with music tech or even combining live instruments and there is also a regular Rock School ensemble for those wishing to extend their instrumental skills.

Instrumental Tuition

Music tuition is offered to our students from all Key Stages and currently this is at capacity with our visiting peripatetic teacher covering a wide range of instruments with our students. Learning an instrument has positive cognitive benefits whilst also building our student's confidence, can relieve stress, improve patience, memory and will help them to be more creative. They can access individual lessons on a weekly basis run during the school day. Students are excused from their subjects for either twenty or thirty minutes to learn an instrument. The current instruments taught are:

- Electric guitar
- Acoustic guitar
- Bass guitar
- Ukulele
- Piano/Keyboard
- Drums

Part C: Musical experiences

Laleham Gap School has now expanded the tradition of planning a whole Primary Christmas Concert as this has proved successful over the past four years. This enables each primary class to participate. This time we are using a retelling of a Christmas story still retaining the time to come together whole school for the sing and

sign piece as the finale. This remains a wonderful way of using communication and interaction for our students.

There is due to be in Term 4 of the year, the third annual music showcase. This will be an opportunity for students in all Key Stages to have a platform to perform to an audience.

There will also be a joint venture in Term 3 with the Drama department which will be a whole school (secondary) production. This will be cross curricular and culminate in two evening performances.

In the future

The aim of the music department is to make connections with professionals who can enhance the careers discussions of our student and give them an understanding of how to pursue different pathways in the future.