**Music development plan summary:   
The Wellington Academy**

**Overview**

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| **Detail** | **Information** |
| Academic Year that this summary covers | 2024-2025 |
| Date this summary was published | 31/01/2025 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | 08/09/2025 |
| Name of the school music lead | Nichola Graham |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | Jennie Cash |
| Name of local music hub | Gloucester, Swindon and Wiltshire (GSW) Music Hub |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | N/A |

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**

Our curriculum has been designed with our students and our staff specialisms and equipment in mind, and broadly encompasses that of the model music curriculum (March 2021). It includes a range of classical, popular and technology based topics to give students the breadth of experience they need for GCSE whilst feeling relevant to today’s musical world.

Years 7-9 have two timetabled music lessons a fortnight. Our curriculum includes the following activities, recommended by the model music curriculum:

* Singing
* Listening and appraising
* Composing
* Performing
* Keyboard, ukulele, drumming and technology skills
* Reading and writing staff and tab notation
* Class instrumental ensembles
* Instruments of the orchestra
* Programme music and music for media
* Digital Audio Workstations (DAWs)
* Music from different cultures and styles

In class opportunities at The Wellington Academy include:

* Solo and paired instrumental lessons through Key Stage 3 (KS3)
* The opportunity to try instruments including keyboard, xylophone, ukulele, bass guitar, drums, voice
* Teacher and peer feedback on performance and composition skills

The opportunities to perform or work on instrumental skills happen in almost every lesson through KS3 as either a solo, pair or ensemble and pupils are guided in a range of ways:

* Using sheet music to read, notate and play
* To take inspiration from a stimulus, e.g. a film clip, story or poetry
* Taught as one large class ensemble, in unison and also in canon or harmony
* Independent rehearsal as a soloist, duo or small ensemble
* Exposing students to a range of genres, styles and complexity

We partner with GSW Hub, formally Wiltshire Music Connect to provide peripatetic lessons for students. They also provide CPD opportunities for staff and networking of music specialists alongside musical experiences for our students. Some of the recent activities our students have tried were a West African Drumming day, workshops with The Beat Goes On; a body percussion and rhythm specialist and an interactive STEM and music gaming workshop. Here, the students were able to complete tasks to create an Olympic themed computer game with music and sound effects.

We offer music at GCSE and are looking to introduce A-Level Music Technology.  
 **Part B: Co-curricular Music**

Music tuition and clubs:

* One-to-one lessons of between 15 and 30 minutes or shared 30 minute lessons taught on a range of instruments by specialists:
* Piano
* Voice
* Guitar, bass guitar, ukulele
* Percussion
* Flute, clarinet and saxophone

Lessons are offered with a 70% subsidy for students with SEND and a 100% subsidy for those students who receive Free School Meals or are LAC. In some instances lessons may be funded by the school.

Extra-curricular clubs are run by performing arts staff:

* Choir
* Djembe drumming
* Showcase rehearsals
* ‘Well in Tune’ concert rehearsals
* Intervention and timetabled lessons for exam groups
* ‘Open door’ timetabled policy for KS3 students to use the facilities during breaks and lunch

We are very lucky to have several rehearsal spaces and music rooms within the department:

* 2 well equipped music rooms
* 28 computers running a mixture of Cubase, Sibelius and Bandlab
* 4 practice rooms of varying sizes for either solo, duo or ensemble rehearsals
* 2 adjoining rooms set up as a recording studio with a control room and a live room.
* A large stage/performance theatre with fully equipped lighting and sound
* Large studio for dance and rehearsals, linking through to backstage theatre

**Part C: Musical experiences**

Annual in school performance opportunities include:

* Remembrance Service (Term 2)
* Annual ‘Well in Tune’ concert (Term 3/4)
* ‘Welly Fest’ outdoor live music (Term 6)
* School musical alternating with a drama production
* Live music in assemblies
* Performances at open evenings and public school events

**In the future**

The Wellington Academy is keen to continue developing music and are planning the following for the coming years:

* Increase in number of instrumental lessons: we are expanding the current offer of musical instruments for individual tuition to include a wider range of orchestral instruments.
* Additional clubs to encompass more band and ensemble opportunities and using our current peripatetic teachers to deliver high quality experiences
* Collaborating with other schools within Ascend Learning Trust for motivation and performance opportunities, including hosting music concerts
* Utilising our recording studio to enable our students to explore technology to record or be recorded performing their own music or cover songs
* Embed music competitions within the house system to include song writing, composition and performances
* Forging forge strong links with our local Army Brass Band and military connections to showcase live music, inspire careers within the industry and allow students to explore more instruments.