

MUSIC

DEVELOPMENT PLAN Summary



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Jorge May, Head of Music
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Sarah Drummond, Assistant Headteacher
Name of local music hub	South Coast Music Partnership
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Discover the Music Ltd., Southampton Music Service

This summary outlines how our school delivers music education to all pupils across three areas — curriculum music, co-curricular provision, and musical experiences — and what changes we are planning for future years. It is intended 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 KS3 and KS4 Curriculum for Music can be found on our school website via the following links:

KS3 Curriculum - [Music Curriculum Map](#)

KS4 Curriculum - [Eduqas GCSE Curriculum Map](#)

Our music curriculum is based on the National Curriculum for Music, while also embedding aspects of the Model Music Curriculum. We have a strong focus on the use of music technology, which continues from KS3 into KS4 (Eduqas GCSE Music syllabus).

Students receive:



- 1 hour per week of music provision in Years 7 and 8
- 5 hours per fortnight in Year 9
- 3 hours per week in Years 10 and 11

All students have the option to learn a musical instrument with a specialist peripatetic instrumental teacher. We work with three providers — Southampton Music Service, Discover the Music Ltd., and a team of self-employed teachers. Financial support through the pupil premium fund is available to eligible students committed to their music studies.

Supporting students with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) in Music

Students with SEND are supported in the following ways:



- Adaptive resources to meet individual learning needs, including the use of OpenDyslexic font, coloured paper, scaffolded materials, noise defenders, and high-contrast keyboards.
- Clear routines from entry to exit, with structured expectations for instrument setup and use.
- Bespoke training for teaching assistants from Music Department staff, focusing on supporting students' learning, particularly in music technology tools such as GarageBand and Flat.io.
- Partnership with the South Coast Music Partnership to assist students with physical disabilities in accessing adaptive instruments for their studies.

Part B: Co-curricular music

At St George, we offer two main teacher-led ensembles in line with the National Plan for Music Education (2022), in addition to regular ensemble work within academic music lessons. Both ensembles are open to students in all year groups.

- ASPIRE Voices – our vocal ensemble performs a wide variety of repertoire, including pop and religious music, reflecting the strong Catholic ethos of our school.
- SG Pops – our school concert band offers students (Grade 2 or above) the opportunity to perform a range of genres including show tunes, popular hits, and film/TV music.

Students, particularly in KS4, are encouraged to form their own student-led pop/rock ensembles for rehearsals at lunchtime and after school. Music Department staff are available during lunchtimes to assist, and practice rooms can be booked with permission from the Head of Music.



Students are also encouraged to participate in ensembles run by our partner organisations, details of which can be found via the links below:

[Southampton and IOW Music Ensembles](#)

[Discover the Music Ensembles](#)

Part C: Musical experiences

Music at St George is a vital part of our school, both academically and spiritually. All students participate in weekly hymn singing during assemblies and in a singing assembly once each half term.



Music plays a central role in all events within the liturgical calendar, where ASPIRE Voices and other instrumentalists perform. Students take part in at least two Catholic Masses per academic year, incorporating elements of The Mass of Christ the Saviour by Dan Schutte. They are also invited to perform in the annual Carol Service and during Faith Day activities.

In the Future

The department aims to increase the number of students taking GCSE Music to 10–20% of each year group within the next 5–10 years (above the current national average of 7%). Key strategies include expanding peripatetic music provision with affordable rates through our providers, strengthening links with feeder primary schools, and promoting instrumental and vocal lessons at transition events.

Further information



Contact Information for Music Department Staff

Mr Jorge May, Head of Music

jmay@stgcc.co.uk

Mrs Sarah Drummond,
Assistant Headteacher / Head of Performing Arts

sdrummond@stgcc.co.uk

Mrs Amanda Pegg, Teacher of Music

apegg@stgcc.co.uk