Sawtry Village Academy
Music Development Plan
2025 – 2028

Date created	**20/09/2025**
Version number	**1**
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1. Introduction and Rationale

This Music Development Plan sets out the vision, priorities, and strategic actions for the development of Music provision at Sawtry Village Academy over the next three to five years. It aligns with the school's overall ethos, aims, and commitment to high-quality creative and cultural education for all students.

Music is a vital part of the school curriculum and wider school life. It supports students' academic, personal, social, and cultural development, promotes wellbeing, and fosters creativity, collaboration, and self-expression. This plan aims to ensure that all students have access to high-quality music education, opportunities for musical engagement, and pathways for progression, regardless of background or prior experience.

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2. Vision for Music at Sawtry Village Academy

Our vision is that:

- Every student experiences a rich, varied, and high-quality music education.
- Music is valued as an integral part of the curriculum and school culture.
- Students have opportunities to perform, compose, listen, and engage critically with music.
- Talented and motivated students are supported to reach their full potential.
- Music contributes positively to students' wellbeing, confidence, and sense of belonging.
- The school has strong partnerships with families, local music services, and the wider community.

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3. Current Provision

Curriculum Music

Currently, Music is delivered at Key Stage 3 fo to all students, with the following key features:

- A broad and balanced curriculum covering:
    - Performing
    - Composing

    - Listening and appraising

- Units of study across the whole of Key Stage 3 include:

1. Instruments of the Orchestra (using the music of Harry Potter)
2. Medieval Music
3. Ground Bass (using Pachelbel's canon)
4. Samba Drumming
5. Ukulele skills
6. Composing (including the use of Digital Audio Workstations
7. Music Theory
8. Solo Performance
9. Blues and Rock and Roll
10. Ensemble Performance

- At Key Stage 4, students can opt to study GCSE Music (OCR).

Extra-Curricular Music

Current opportunities include a very well attended school choir and orchestra, as well as a musical theatre group (SVA Encore) which encapsulates music, drama and dance. SVA currently has six visiting peripatetic music teachers delivering 1:1 tuition in singing, flute, violin, guitar, drums and piano.

Performance opportunities

Annual performance events include a Winter concert, SVA's Got Talent, Summer musical (Legally Blonde for 2026), Sawtry Carnival and two trust performance events per year.

Facilities and Resources

Current facilities include:

- A dedicated music classroom
- Three practice rooms
- ICT – to assist with composition
- A performance space (hall/theatre)

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4. Strengths of Current Provision

The strengths of Music at Sawtry Village Academy include:

- Committed and specialist Music staff
- High levels of student engagement in lessons and clubs
- Strong culture of performance
- Positive contribution to school events and community life
- Increasing uptake at GCSE

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5. Areas for Development

Key areas for improvement include:

1. **Increasing participation in extra-curricular music**
2. **Improving access to instrumental tuition including SEND and PP students**
3. **Strengthening links with primary schools and local music hubs**
4. **Enhancing performance opportunities**
5. **Expanding use of music technology**
6. **Ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for all students**
7. **Raising the profile of Music across the school**

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6. Strategic Aims (3–5 Year Plan)

Aim 1: Improve Access and Participation

We will:

- Encourage more students to participate in music beyond the classroom.
- Promote music clubs and ensembles through assemblies, tutor time, and school communications.
- Ensure that opportunities are open to all, including disadvantaged students and those with SEND.
- Explore financial support or subsidies for instrumental lessons where possible.

Aim 2: Strengthen Curriculum Music

We will:

- Regularly review and update the Key Stage 3 curriculum to ensure it is engaging, diverse, and relevant.
- Incorporate a wider range of musical genres and cultures.
- Increase use of technology in composition and production.
- Ensure clear progression from Key Stage 3 to GCSE Music with a well-sequenced curriculum.

Aim 3: Develop Performance Opportunities

We will:

- Continue to hold at least two major school music events per year (A Winter Concert and a summer musical).
- Create more informal performance opportunities (performing arts assemblies, lunchtime concerts).
- Encourage collaboration with Drama
- Explore participation in local or national festivals.

Aim 4: Enhance Instrumental and Vocal Tuition

We will:

- Investigate increasing the range of instruments offered.
- Provide clear pathways for progression from beginner to advanced level, encouraging graded exams.
- Encourage ensemble participation alongside individual tuition.

Aim 5: Build External Partnerships

We will:

- Strengthen links with:

    - Local Music Education Hub
    - Feeder primary schools
    - Community music organisations
    - Local venues and performers
- Explore joint projects, workshops, or visits.

Aim 6: Promote Music as Part of Whole-School Culture

We will:

- Integrate music into school events such as assemblies, open evenings, and celebrations.
- Celebrate student achievements through newsletters, displays, and social media.
- Encourage cross-curricular links (e.g., music and history, music and media studies).
- Aim to achieve the Gold Artsmark in 2027.

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7. Inclusion and Equality

We are committed to ensuring that:

- Music provision is accessible to all students.
- Students with SEND receive appropriate support and adaptations.
- Financial barriers to participation are minimised wherever possible, as mentioned in the Pupil Premium charter.
- The curriculum reflects a diverse range of cultures, traditions, and musical styles.
- Girls, boys, and students from all backgrounds are equally encouraged to participate.

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8. Staffing and Professional Development

To support high-quality Music provision, we will:

- Ensure Music staff have access to relevant CPD opportunities.
- Encourage collaboration with other departments.
- Provide training on music technology where needed.

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9. Resources and Budget

We will aim to:

- Maintain and update musical instruments and equipment.
- Invest in music technology where appropriate.
- Seek external funding or grants where possible.
- Prioritise spending that directly benefits student learning and participation.

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10. Monitoring and Evaluation

The success of this Music Development Plan will be evaluated through:

- Student participation rates in lessons and extra-curricular activities.
- GCSE Music uptake and achievement.
- Quality of teaching and learning (through observation and feedback).
- Student and parent feedback.
- Number and quality of performances and events.
- Engagement with external partners.

This plan will be reviewed annually and updated as necessary.

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11. Conclusion

This Music Development Plan reflects our commitment to providing a vibrant, inclusive, and high-quality music education at [School Name]. Through strategic development,

investment, and collaboration, we aim to inspire a lifelong appreciation of music and enable students to achieve their full potential.