

| Detail | Information |
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| Academic Year that this Summary Covers | 2025-26 |
| Date this Summary was Published | Jan 2026 |
| Head of Creative Arts | Alanna Iddon |
| Name of School Leadership Team Member with Responsibility for Music | Tristan Muller-Forster |
| Name of Local Music Hub | ASONE Hub |
| Name of Other Music Education Organisations | CMST Cornwall Music Service Trust |

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our learners across three areas - curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences, and highlighting what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents/carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our learner's music education.

Curriculum Music

Students at Brannel School currently study music as part of their extensive and varied timetable offer across Key Stage 3. Students are timetabled one 75-minute lesson over the two-week timetable which equates to 24 hours across the academic year. All timetabled music lessons are planned, taught and delivered by our Music Teacher, Mr Paul Sambells. During these timetabled lessons students engage with and develop their knowledge and skills in music through performing, composing and singing. Across years 7 and 8, students can play and perform in a range of solo and ensemble contexts using their voices as well as by playing instruments such as the keyboard, ukulele and a mixture of tuned and untuned percussion. This is achieved and delivered through a range of mediums such as traditional stave notation, use of lead sheets, chord diagrams and tablature. Students have opportunities to compose and improvise their own music using instruments and electronically; using music technology sequencing software - Logic. Throughout Key Stage 3, students also have the opportunity to listen with increasing discrimination to music from a range of styles, genres and traditions, consolidating their practical tasks. These styles, genres and traditions have been carefully selected and introduced in a logical and sequenced progression to enhance

the gradual build-up of knowledge and skills whilst remaining ambitious and challenging and have been influenced by the [Model Music Curriculum](#).

These activities have been planned to develop a deepening of understanding of the music that students perform and listen to, as well as its history and context within society.

At Key Stage 4, Music is also offered as an option in Year 10 and students currently follow the Pearson BTEC Level 1/2 Tech Award in Music Practice. Music classes are taught in mixed-ability groupings to allow students with a range of academic experiences to listen to and create music together. Our music curriculum is accessible for students with a range of SEND needs, however, where necessary, appropriate alterations and adaptive teaching methods are put in place to ensure all students are able to participate in practical music education. More information on the specific topics, genres and styles studied across the key stages can be viewed by accessing the curriculum overview and curriculum summary documents for Music on our Website: [Music - Brannel School Website](#)

Co-Curricular Musical Opportunities

At Brannel School we have fostered an extra-curricular musical experience which complements our timetabled offer. There are a variety of opportunities for students to engage with music outside of timetabled lesson time; including a range of choirs (both orchestral and vocal), use of practice rooms for individual practise, Music Tech opportunities, School Productions as well as peripatetic music lesson provision.

Most of the peripatetic music lessons at Brannel School are provided by Cornwall Music Service Trust (CMST). These lessons take place in a range of settings from solo lessons, pairs and group lessons and happen during the school day. Currently there are students having lessons on the following instruments: Piano, Violin, Drumkit, Voice, Guitar, Ukulele and Bass Guitar. These lessons are paid termly by parents/carers directly to CMST, however, there are a number of remissions available such as subsidies for students in receipt of Free School Meals or in receipt of Disability Living Allowance, children of Armed Forces personnel or students with an EHCP.

Aside from the peripatetic music lessons provided by CMST, additional music lessons are provided to Pupil Premium students free of charge. These lessons are provided by instrumental teachers employed directly by Brannel School and the instruments currently learnt through this provision are keyboard, brass and voice.

Music Development Plan

Brannel School – Creative Arts
Department

Brannel School are proudly part of the CELT Orchestral Choir which is a collaboration of all our CELT Secondary School Orchestral Students that come together once a half-term to rehearse as a full Orchestral Choir.

Brannel School stages an annual school production in the form of a musical which is open to students in all year groups. Students are invited to audition during the Summer Term with performances typically taking place at the end of Autumn Term. As well as our performers on stage, Brannel School alternatively offers a role of ‘Choir’ in the school production, whereby students can be involved as a Choir rather than actor on stage. Brannel School typically stages Junior editions of Broadway and West End Shows and the most recent performances have included Matilda Jr. (2025), Mary Poppins Jr. (2024), Elf Jr. (2023) and Shrek Jr (2022). Tickets are usually charged at £5 for adults with a reduced rate for children and concessions. Brannel School typically produce 4 shows during Show Week and have sold out all previous years. Additionally, we offer a performance to our Feeder Primary Schools, ARB and our Year 7 cohort free of charge.

KS4 Performing Arts Students, can attend the Annual London Trip for a cultural Performing Arts experience. This is where students attend a West End Musical, an Opera or Ballet Performance (change on alternative years to offer breadth for students who attend both years) at the Royal Opera House and a Tour around the Royal Albert Hall, alongside time in the city to explore the iconic sights.

Future Plans:

To enhance the musical experience beyond the classroom through high-quality, inclusive enrichment opportunities.

How we aim to achieve this? The department aims to expand the range of extra-curricular musical activities available to students, including ensembles, forming bands with the use of our recording studio, and performance opportunities tailored to varying levels of experience. New opportunities will be introduced for beginners and non-specialists to encourage wider participation, whilst also celebrating our existing talent. Regular performance events, such as concerts and showcases will continue to be developed to celebrate student achievement and foster a strong performance culture within the school.

Impact - Increased student participation, improved performance confidence, and a stronger sense of community engagement with the arts.

Music Development Plan

Brannel School – Creative Arts
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To embed music as a central and visible part of whole-school life, strengthening community identity, student voice, and shared cultural experiences beyond the music classroom.

How we aim to achieve this? The department plans to develop a whole-school approach to celebrating music by creating opportunities for students to engage with music collaboratively within tutor groups and year cohorts. An example of this will be that tutor groups will be encouraged to develop a shared musical identity, such as creating or selecting a theme song that represents their group values and character. These musical contributions will be integrated into wider school life through their use in celebration assemblies, sporting events, and other key moments in the school calendar. The initiative will be developed in collaboration with pastoral teams and PE departments to ensure music enhances existing whole-school events, reinforcing a consistent and inclusive school culture.

Impact - This approach will raise the profile of music across the school and reinforce its value as a unifying and expressive art form. Students will develop a stronger sense of belonging, pride, and ownership over their school experience, while also gaining opportunities to engage creatively with music in informal and accessible ways. The initiative is expected to increase positive attitudes towards music, broaden participation among non-specialists, and strengthen links between the performing arts and wider school life, contributing to improved wellbeing, engagement, and community cohesion.

To increase student participation in peripatetic instrumental and vocal lessons by raising awareness, improving access, and embedding instrumental learning as a valued and achievable part of the school's musical culture.

How will we achieve this? The department will work to increase uptake of peripatetic lessons by improving communication with students and families regarding the range of instrumental and vocal tuition available. Clear information about lesson structures, costs, progression routes, and financial support will be shared through assemblies, tutor time, and school communication channels. The department will also strengthen links between peripatetic provision and curriculum music, ensuring that instrumental skills are recognised, celebrated, and actively encouraged within lessons, performances, and school events. Where possible, financial or logistical barriers will be addressed through targeted support for disadvantaged students.



Music Development Plan

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Impact - Increased awareness and accessibility will lead to higher uptake and retention in peripatetic lessons across a broader range of students. Pupils will develop stronger instrumental skills, musical independence, and confidence, supporting progression into ensembles, examination courses, and leadership opportunities within the performing arts. In the longer term, this will contribute to a more sustainable and inclusive instrumental programme, raising standards of performance across the school and strengthening the overall musical offer.