



BODMIN
COLLEGE

Music Development Plan

2026-27



Music Development Plan Summary: Bodmin College

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	01/09/2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	01/08/2027
Name of the school Music lead	Miss C Curtis Miss J Langdon
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for Music	Mr L Goodlad
Name of local Music hub	Hall for Cornwall
Name of other Music education organisation(s)	Cornwall Music Tuition, AsOne

This is a summary of how our school delivers Music education to all our students 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 students and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our students' Music education.

Vision for Music Education at Bodmin College

Our vision is to ensure that every student has access to a high-quality, inclusive and inspiring Music education. This ties in with our whole-school vision of *enabling every child to live a life of choice and boundless opportunities*. Through our curriculum, co-curricular opportunities, and wider musical experiences, we aim to:

- Build knowledge, skills, and confidence in performing, composing, and appraising.
- Encourage participation in ensembles, productions, and concerts.
- Provide progression routes from KS3 through to KS5, and beyond into lifelong engagement with Music.
- Strengthen partnerships with the Cornwall Education Music Hub and local providers to broaden opportunities for all.

Part A: Curriculum Music

This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching Music and any Music qualifications or awards that students can achieve.

For 2026-27, Music is taught as a discreet subject to all students across Key Stage 3. The Music curriculum overview can be found on the [Bodmin College website](#).

All students in Key Stage 3 have one 75-minute Music lesson per fortnight. This is taught by a subject-specialist in purpose-built facilities and with access to a wide range of musical instruments, recording equipment, and rehearsal and performance spaces.

The curriculum is broadly informed by the Model Music Curriculum and begins by introducing students to the four families of instruments, before exploring rhythm, pulse, graphic and traditional notation, and time values. Students will begin to learn how to analyse, listen to, perform and compose Music. They will then learn how to read simple rhythms and explore notes on the treble stave and also learn how to play the C major scale and a simple tunes on the keyboard. Students will also sing, harnessing their confidence in primary school and working as an ensemble to sing together.

In Year 8, students will explore *African music* through performance on djembes and dundun drums, focusing on recognising polyrhythms and syncopation. They will then investigate how different musical genres have developed and influenced one another, with a particular focus on *Reggae*. Students will also study the *Blues*, learning how to improvise using the Blues scale and applying this knowledge in both practical and compositional work. Through the medium of *Rock 'n' Roll*, they will further develop their understanding of harmony by exploring chord progressions and the use of primary chords that underpin much of popular music.

In Year 9, students will further develop their creativity by exploring the components of a successful song and understanding how to construct music using structure, chord progressions, recurring patterns, and the four-chord trick. They will then broaden their knowledge through a study of *Music Through Time*, exploring a variety of 20th-century styles and genres. Students will investigate the techniques, features, and characteristics that define these genres, while developing their skills in performance, composition, and appraisal. This journey will help them to appreciate how music has evolved across the century and how different styles continue to shape the music of today.

We are pleased to have reintroduced Music as an option at KS4 last year, and currently have our first Year 11 cohort completing this qualification. We have a large class of students who are studying the BTEC Tech Music Practice qualification, as well as a large group beginning this qualification in Year 10. Through this qualification students study a range of musical styles, learn how to develop their skills in the music industry, and learn how to respond to a music brief. We are reintroducing music technology as part of this qualification so that students are exposed to modern music practices and are confident in using DAW technology. This qualification develops practical skills in performing, creating and producing music. Assessment focuses on real-world music industry scenarios, preparing learners for further study or careers.

Part B: Co-curricular Music

This is about opportunities for students to sing and play Music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how students can make progress in Music beyond the core curriculum.

Bodmin College holds a range of instruments that students can have on loan for the school year, providing opportunities to explore and make Music beyond the classroom. We also have connections with, and signpost students to, a range of county run bands, orchestras, choirs and provisions through the Hub. We have close links with Into Bodmin, Trigg, Restormel Concert Band, local brass bands and the County Choirs.

We have an amazing team of visiting staff from Cornwall Music Service Trust, Cornwall Music Tuition and independent teachers. Through these staff students have 1-2-1 or small group lessons and can, if they wish, work towards Music gradings. Currently the offer includes:

- Woodwind
- Brass
- Drum kit
- Strings
- Keyboards/piano
- Guitar
- Bass
- Vocal
- Music therapy

Lessons are arranged between the provider and parents with Bodmin College acting as the host. Charging varies from provider to provider depending on length of lesson and whether it is 1-2-1 or group. Some remissions are available through the Music Hub, such as for students in receipt of Pupil Premium funding.

Students are able to take part in a range of events, and we rehearse for these events throughout the year. These provide opportunities for students to sing and play Music outside of lesson time. We hold a Christmas Concert in the Autumn term and a Summer Concert collaboration between Music, Drama, and Dance. These are both well attended by our community. We also hold an annual school Musical, which is a huge event in the school calendar. Previous performances have included:

- High School Musical
- Sweeney Todd
- Little Shop of Horrors
- Avenue Q (School Ed.)
- The Lion King Jnr
- Aladdin Jnr

- Chicago (School Ed.)
- Mary Poppins Jnr
- Ghost The Musical (School Ed.)
- Sister Act Jnr
- Frozen Jnr
- Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

Clubs and enrichment activities include:

- Karaoke Club
- Choir
- Vocal Group
- Bands
- Ensemble Club (keyboard, ukuleles, percussion, guitar)

The department has a range of practice rooms that students use.

We are continuing to work alongside the CELT CLE for Music, and in conjunction with other CELT secondary schools, to develop a CELT Orchestra, comprising students from across the CELT secondary schools. We are looking forward to hosting the orchestra at Bodmin College this year.

In addition to concerts and ensembles, Music plays a part in whole-school life. Singing is included in assemblies and celebration events, and we use whole-school gatherings to showcase musical talent and promote participation across year groups.

Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other Musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

We run a range of trips to the theatre for students in Drama and Music. These are released throughout the year to relevant students and are dependent on the programme from our local theatres. We have also run theatre visits to the West End to include watching Musical theatre and taking part in West End Artist Workshops. These workshops focus primarily on the annual school production.

We plan to run our annual programme of concerts in the Autumn and Summer terms, as well as our school production in the Spring Term. Full details of this are to be released soon.

We also take part in concerts hosted at both Hall for Cornwall and Launceston Town Hall, including Songfest. These are open to students in all year groups.

We work with local primary schools to support transition into KS3, including offering performance opportunities for Year 6 students and inviting primaries to attend our concerts. Careers in the creative industries are highlighted through visiting speakers, workshops, and links to local theatres, supporting progression into post-16 study and beyond.

In the future

This is about what the school is planning for subsequent years.

In the future we plan to focus on:

2026–27:

- Establish a wider range of instrumental ensembles (e.g., brass, strings, contemporary band).
- Expand whole-school singing through community events.
- Increase uptake at KS4 by 20% through earlier options promotion and student showcases.

2027–28:

- Develop music industry pathways through collaboration with local FE/HE providers.
- Introduce a student-led “Music Leaders” scheme to support younger learners and lead co-curricular groups.