Oriel Academy West London
an Aspirations Academy

Music development plan summary: Oriel Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	December 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Maria Keany
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Helen Owden
Name of local music hub	Hounslow
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rock Steady

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

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

At Oriel Academy, music is a core part of the curriculum, with carefully planned and timetabled lessons taking place regularly across all year groups. The school is invested in high-quality teaching and resources to ensure an engaging and enriching musical education for all pupils. Lessons and activities draw from the comprehensive Charanga Scheme, which has been meticulously curated to provide a structured pathway of progression - both lesson-to-lesson and year-over-year - to comprehensively meet the statutory music requirements set forth in the National Curriculum. Pupils have the opportunity to interact with a diverse array of musical instruments, all handpicked to complement the lessons and support skill development. Overseeing these dynamic music classes is a specialist music teacher, with an extensive subject knowledge. Beyond the classroom, the school also offers an extra-curricular Rock Steady club, where the music teacher provides tutoring to help pupils hone their talents and gain valuable performance experience. For a fee, pupils can participate in this specialised program, with the school covering the costs for premium pupils to ensure accessibility. The musical prowess of Oriel Academy pupils is also showcased during the school's class assemblies. The school calendar is punctuated by highly anticipated musical events, such as the annual Winter Performance held in the autumn, where all year groups come together to deliver a performance for parents. Similarly, the summer term is celebrated with vibrant year group festivals that put the spotlight on the pupils' musical accomplishments. Through this multifaceted approach, Oriel Academy School ensures that music is not just a subject, but an integral part of the holistic educational experience, nurturing the artistic talents and appreciation of its young learners.

Part B: Co-curricular music

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

The school offers a wide variety of engaging extra-curricular music and performance opportunities for pupils of varying ages and skill levels. The weekly Rock Band Club, run by the Rock Steady company, is open to all pupils and provides a chance for them to learn instruments, collaborate in a band, and work towards obtaining a music qualification through their participation. This hands-on, immersive experience allows pupils to develop their musical talents and confidence in a supportive group setting. Beyond the Rock Band Club, the school also hosts a weekly Drama Club, a diverse ensemble of performers from across all year groups attend. Complementing the Drama Club is the weekly Choir club, which is open to all pupils. This inclusive choir club is available to all year groups and is free of charge, providing another avenue for pupils to explore their vocal abilities and love of music. Furthermore, the school holds weekly whole-school singing assemblies, which provide regular opportunities for children to showcase their individual talents by performing solos or small group pieces, as well as demonstrating their mastery of various musical instruments.

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.

Music and performance are woven into the fabric of the curriculum at Oriel Academy, with a wide range of opportunities for pupils to showcase their talents throughout the year. Each month, pupils come together for a singing assembly, where they have the chance to perform solos and in small groups, as well as demonstrate their mastery of various musical instruments. These assemblies are a joyful celebration of the pupils' hard work and musical abilities. Beyond the weekly singing sessions, every class also prepares and performs a class assembly for the rest of their year group and families. These assemblies incorporate singing as a key component, allowing the pupils to display their vocal prowess to audiences. Additionally, the school places a strong emphasis on the holiday season, with each year group across the school learning and performing multiple songs for a Winter Performance held in the Autumn term. During this event, pupils are given the chance to shine in small group numbers, further highlighting the depth of musical talent present in the school. To enrich the musical experience, pupils have the opportunity to see a professional theatrical performance in school. Throughout the year, the school organises various year group festivals, where all pupils participate in performances showcased for their parents and paired year groups. The grand finale of the school's performing arts calendar is the Year 6 Leavers Production, which involves the entire graduating group and is performed for parents in the evening and the whole school at various points in the week. The school's musical talent is further celebrated through the Rock Band's performances for pupils, staff and parents.

In the future

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

- The Music Lead will regularly invite professional musicians into the school to perform live for the children, exposing them to a diverse array of musical styles and talents. Additionally, the school's own staff members will take the stage to showcase the children's skills, providing students with first-hand experience of performing to an audience. Music history will also play a more prominent role, as it will now be incorporated as a stimulus within the school's Reading Curriculum, allowing pupils to explore the cultural and historical contexts that have shaped various musical genres and traditions. Furthermore, a brand new free-to-join Choir Club will be established, offering pupils an outlet for choral singing that is separate from the school's drama

productions. Each month, the pupils will be recognised for their musical achievements through the awarding of special certificates (Musician of the Month). These certificates will serve as a tangible symbol of the dedication and progress the pupils have made. The names of pupils will be published in the weekly newsletter. With this holistic expansion of musical experiences, the school is poised to foster a vibrant culture of music appreciation, participation, and excellence among its pupils.

Further information

The Department for Education publishes a guide for parents and young people on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.