



Music Development Plan

September 2025

Minsthorpe Community College: A place where everyone plays a part in strengthening our learning community through Motivation, Commitment & Care.



Minsthorpe
Community College

Section 1

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	Sept 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	Sept 2026
Name of the school music lead	Claire Chamberlain
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Leadership Link Jenny Read
Name of local music hub	Wakefield Music HUB
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

Section 2

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.

At Minsthorpe we plan our music curriculum informed by the Model Music Curriculum at KS3 (3 years), to ensure we provide a structured comprehensive music education that develops a wide range of musical skills. The curriculum promotes creativity, critical thinking, and cultural awareness, offering a balanced mix of performing, composing, listening, and appraising. It ensures consistency and progression in musical learning, aligning with national standards, and helps to nurture a lifelong appreciation of music.

Students at KS3 have 1 lesson every fortnight taught in a mixed ability pastoral form group. At KS4 we follow the Level 2 BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice (See Overview above). Students that study the BTEC pathway have 3 x 100 minute lessons over a fortnight.

Our Music department offers a wide range of opportunities for students to sing and play instruments across year groups from Year 7-13. Students can participate in vocal groups, school band and solo performances allowing them to develop their musical talents.



We offer whole class singing sessions that are embedded within the curriculum, to foster musical engagement. Whether it is a vocal or instrumental session, students of all abilities and skill levels are encouraged to explore and enjoy music throughout their school journey.

1:1 Peripatetic lessons are offered within the school by our music lead teacher Claire Chamberlain, and an outside visiting Drum teacher. Students follow graded music exams such as RSL and ABRSM.

Our local Music HUB at Wakefield offers CPD opportunities to enhance our staff training throughout the school year alongside networking with other secondary schools.

Section 3

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.

Music Tuition

1:1 Peripatetic lessons are offered within the school by our music lead teacher Claire Chamberlain and an outside visiting Drum teacher who visits one day a week. Students follow graded music exams such as RSL and ABRSM. Students can have a 1:1 lesson weekly in Voice, Piano, Guitar or Drums.

Lessons are charged at a subsidised rate:

Pupil Premium students at £180 for 36 lessons

Non-Pupil Premium students at £300 for 36 lessons

Extra-curricular

Consists of a vocal group with mixed voices from all year groups and, several school rock and pop bands that rehearse each week at KS4, working towards annual concerts in December and July. Students are invited to join these free clubs at the start of term and reminded weekly through our school communication platform (Satchel).

Students can take advantage of after school and lunch time rehearsals to further develop their musical skills. During these sessions, they can practice individually, with small groups or in bigger ensemble such as a vocal group. These rehearsals provide additional time to refine their technique, prepare for performances and collaborate with peers. With access to school instruments and guidance from staff, students are encouraged to use these opportunities to enhance their musical growth and confidence in addition to timetabled classroom contact hours.



Students have the opportunity to join the local music centre on a Saturday morning and play in other more classical ensembles.

Section 4

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.

Musical Experiences

Our department provides a wide range of enriching musical experiences for students throughout the year. These include performance opportunities in our annual Christmas and Summer concert, where students showcase their vocal and instrumental talents in front of parents/carers from the local community. We also stage an annual production, allowing students to combine acting, singing and instrumental performance in a full-scale theatre experience. Students' uptake at these events are between 40-60 students.

School Trips

Cultural capital at Minsthorpe is excellent, offering our students opportunities to attend trips to Musicals in London every year and local theatres, including live performances offering students the chance to experience professional music and theatre productions firsthand.

These trips expose students to a variety of musical styles and genres enhancing their appreciation and understanding of the performing arts. This cultural enrichment provides valuable inspiration for their own musical development.

Planned for this academic year:

College Christmas Concert 4th December 2025

Annual Production Matilda March 15th-17th 2026

London Musical Trip June 2026

College Summer Concert July 2026

Production Park Visit – date TBC

Huddersfield University Music Department Visit – date TBC



Section 5

In the future

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

The department has increased their access to students in order to continue to enhance their musical education by the transition from a two year KS3 to a three year KS3. This has resulted in the development of new Year 9 schemes of work which all students access.

The department ran a very popular and successful overseas trip to New York as part of their Creative team offer. Students were always taken to see a Broadway musical, broadening their cultural capital. This trip has for staffing and economic reasons ended but the team are exploring European opportunities to replace this trip with the hope of being able to run this next academic year.



Final Section

Equality Assessment

This policy has been assessed with regard to its impact on equalities issue, with specific reference to the aims of the Equality Act 2010. The equality impact assessment focused on age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation.

Updates September 2025

Section 1 – Dates
Section 3 – costs
Section 4 – dates for planned musical experiences

Review Schedule

Last reviewed:	Due for next review:	Role Responsible:
September 2024	September 2025	Curriculum Team Leader Music and Leadership Link
September 2025	September 2026	Curriculum Team Leader Music and Leadership Link

