

Why do we teach it?

Music is a universal language that allows our pupils to express themselves as composers, performers, improvisers and communicators.

At Helen Allison School, we aim to inspire a love of music that not only develops subject-specific skills that a broad and balanced curriculum offers, but also challenges the students to develop transferable skills. These include literacy, numeracy, organisation, listening to each other, following instructions, working in a team and developing friendships.

Music can help those with autism to develop better social skills and develop self-confidence. Music can reduce the stress and anxiety levels of autistic children and adults. Areas of positive impact for an autistic person can include improved:

- Communication skills
- Social development
- Self-expression
- Emotional support
- Cognitive development
- Empowerment
- Creativity

INTENT - What we are teaching

At Helen Allison School we encourage pupils to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to build up their confidence. Understanding of music is developed through activities which bring together the requirements of performing, composing, listening and appraising.

Pupils have the opportunity to:

- Make music together with tuned and un-tuned instruments
- Compose their own music/soundscapes
- Sing with control in more than one part
- Represent sounds graphically and symbolically
- Participate in performances in and outside school

IMPLEMENTATION - How we teach it

Music is delivered according to the needs of specific students and/or groups.

Key Stage 1 – Music SEND Curriculum (Music Express)

Key Stage 2 - National Curriculum for Music (Music Express)

Key Stage 3 - National Curriculum for Music/RSL Instrumental Music Graded Exams

Key Stage 4/5 - RSL Instrumental Music Graded Exams/Arts Award/Individualised Curriculum Studies

IMPACT - What is working

Instrumental lessons

Instrumental lessons are popular both at the main school and the Hub. Students can:

- Study towards externally graded exams. They also have the opportunity join the school band and take part in performances both at school and in the community.
- Learn for pleasure, learning at their own pace using a bespoke curriculum developed to meet their specific needs and wants.

Class based lessons

- Students are exposed to various forms of music notation.
- Students have the opportunity to develop their singing voice.
- Students learn to compose using specific techniques i.e. Form, Structure, Beat and Rhythmic development.
- Students are introduced to music making and creating, using technology.

School Events

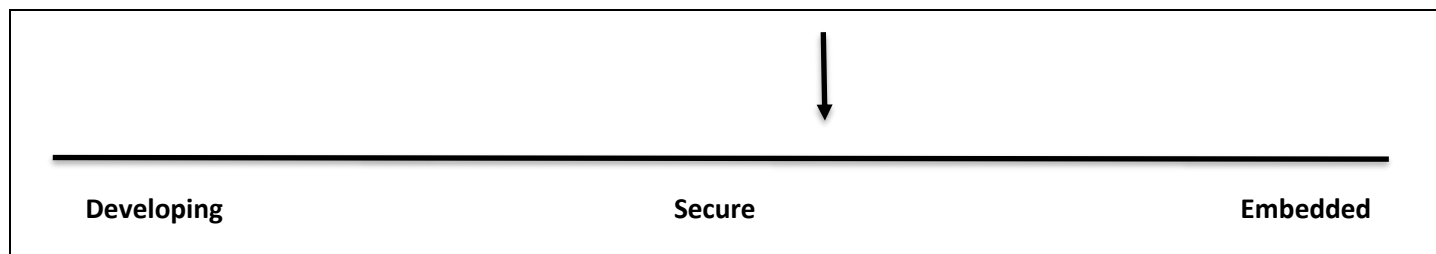
- Christmas Concert

- Helen Allision School's Got Talent (HASGT)
- The School production

School events are a chance for the different strands of the Music offer to be brought together.

The concerts give students to the opportunity to perform in front of an audience. The HASGT provides opportunities for all students to showcase their talent. The school production offers opportunities for musicians to perform in supportive roles to actors. This brings together Drama, Music and Music Production.

On the scale below rate where you believe this subject currently stands in terms of your overall curriculum offer:



Subject Leader Actions and Impact

Previous Improvement Actions and Impact	Current Improvement Actions	Future Improvement Actions
<p>Implementation of a school wide approach to the subject based on the National Curriculum.</p> <p>2021-22 All students set according to their levels based on teaching over an academic year. This is now in place and the last two academic years.</p> <p>Many students have performed over a range of setting.</p> <p>Students are exposed to a wide range of music.</p> <p>Appreciation for the subject has grown with most students regularly engaged in music making activities on a regular basis.</p>	<p>Refining the offer to better meet student needs and ranges of ability and interest. I.e. Music Technology.</p> <p>Challenging students to develop their abilities through logical approaches.</p> <p>Better understanding the instrumental offer and how students can achieve qualifications through this pathway.</p> <p>Identifying and preparing students at the main school who show interest in developing their music interest, for qualifications when at the Hub.</p> <p>Music Express SEND Curriculum</p>	<p>Expanding the range of qualifications offered at the Hub.</p> <p>A focus on developing communication skills for pre-verbal students through music.</p> <p>School productions to be vocational focused for those who would benefit.</p> <p>Raise the profile of Music in the community.</p> <p>Developing a suite of visual resources, mainly IT based, that pupils and staff can interact with.</p> <p>Continued refinement of the Music Offer at the main school.</p> <p>Music as a vehicle for developing sequencing and memory.</p>