

Leigh Academy Rainham

Music Development Plan

Version	1
Policy Status	
Date of Issue	July 2025
Date to be Revised	July 2026

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1. Vision for Music

To inspire all students through a high-quality, inclusive, and culturally diverse music education that supports creative development, academic achievement, and personal growth. Music at Leigh Academy Rainham will engage students as performers, composers, listeners, and producers, fostering life-long appreciation and confidence through practical music-making, technology, and community involvement.

2. School Context

Opened: 2021 | **Year Groups:** 7–11

Curriculum:

- **KS3:** MYP Music (Middle Years Programme)
- **KS4:** Eduqas GCSE Music
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Facilities:

- 1 Music Technology Classroom
- 2 Practice Rooms

Instruments Available:

Keyboards, Pianos, Ukuleles, Acoustic & Electric Guitars, Xylophones, Djembe Drums

Staffing:

- 1 Full-Time Music Teacher
- Peripatetic teachers for Guitar, Piano, Singing, Drums
- External Singing Club Leader (after-school)

Enrichment:

- Weekly Lunchtime Music Club (all years)
- Practice rooms available after school (especially for GCSE students)
- Active involvement in end-of-year performing arts productions

3. Strategic Priorities (2025-27)

A. Curriculum Development

Objective	Actions	Timeline
Refine MYP Curriculum	- Ensure a clear progression in composition, performance, and listening across Y7–9 - Incorporate global music (e.g. African drumming, Indian ragas) - Use djembe drums in rhythm-based units	Autumn 2024
Strengthen KS4 Eduqas Provision	- Embed retrieval practice into lessons - Launch structured performance portfolio tracking - Offer half-term theory bootcamps	Spring 2025
Develop Music Technology Integration	- Implement DAW-based projects (looping, remixing, MIDI sequencing) - Use free platforms like BandLab or Soundtrap - Train pupils in recording techniques	Autumn 2025 – Summer 2026
Bridge KS3–KS4 Continuity	- Include film music, pop structures, and fusion projects in Y9 - Align MYP vocabulary with Eduqas terminology	2025–2026

B. Extra-Curricular and Performance Culture

Objective	Actions	Timeline
Expand Opportunities for Participation	- Increase music club to two lunchtimes per week - Introduce rotating “Jam Sessions,” Tech Tuesdays, and Songwriting Hour	Spring 2025
Build Student-Led Ensembles	- Launch a ukulele group or guitar club - Form a GCSE-led band for events	Autumn 2025
Develop Annual Events Programme	- Host Winter and Summer Concerts - Feature Music in assemblies and rewards events - Organise a “Leigh’s Got Talent” or House Music Competition	Autumn 2025 – ongoing
Showcase Peripatetic Talent	- Organise a Peri Students’ Recital each term - Invite parents to attend and celebrate progress	Spring 2026

C. Access, Resources & Facilities

Objective	Actions	Timeline
Ensure Inclusive Access	- Maintain practice room booking system - Promote open access to clubs and rehearsal time for all pupils	Ongoing
Improve Classroom Resources	- Replace/repair damaged instruments (ukuleles, drum skins) - Ensure enough keyboards for full class use	Summer 2025
Enhance Music Tech Facilities	- Install basic recording set-up in one practice room (mic, audio interface, DAW) - Secure licenses for DAWs like BandLab for Education	Autumn 2025
Develop Physical Music Displays	- Display student compositions, music quotes, and termly "Performer Spotlights"	Autumn 2024

D. Staff Development and Capacity Building

Objective	Actions	Timeline
Support Music Teacher CPD	- Attend Eduqas training and MYP subject-specific workshops - Complete training in DAW platforms and digital composition	2024–2026
Foster Collaboration Across Trust	- Join Leigh Academies Trust subject network - Share performance events and resources across schools	2024–ongoing
Build Student Leadership in Music	- Train GCSE pupils to mentor younger musicians - Create roles: Ensemble Leaders, Tech Assistants	2025–2026
Explore Staff Expansion	- Investigate options for part-time assistant or PGCE trainee support	2026–2027

E. Community & Parental Engagement

Objective	Actions	Timeline
Increase Community Involvement	- Perform at local events or care homes - Run open music rehearsals for parents/carers	2025–2026
Communicate Achievements	- Share music news via school social media, newsletters, and website - Post regular rehearsal clips and photos	Autumn 2024 – ongoing

Create Family Music Opportunities	- Host family jam night or instrument try-out evenings - Offer short music technology workshops for parents/carers	2026–2027
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4. Monitoring and Evaluation

Method	Frequency	Lead
Pupil Voice Surveys	Termly	Music Teacher / SLT
Uptake of Clubs & GCSE	Annually	Music Teacher
Curriculum Review & SOW Update	Annually	Music Lead
Performances Logged	Ongoing	Music Teacher
Feedback from Peripatetic Teachers	Termly	Music Teacher
GCSE Progress Data	Half-termly	Subject Leader / SLT

5. Success Measures by 2027

Curriculum: Full 5-year programme aligned to MYP and Eduqas, including diverse global content and technology integration

Clubs: 3+ regular extra-curricular music activities with strong student leadership

Performance: Annual calendar of internal and external performance opportunities

Tech: All KS3 pupils familiar with DAW use; GCSE students using recording and editing software

Engagement: Increased KS4 music uptake and improved GCSE outcomes

Recognition: Music department visible in whole-school life and celebrated across the community