



Ellis Guilford School – Music Development Plan 2025-2026

Overview

Academic year: 2026-27

Published: September 2026

Review: September 2027

Music Lead: Mr C Dove

SLT member with responsibility for music (if different): Mr J Neville

Music Hub: Nottingham City Music Hub

Music links with: Nottingham Music Tuition

Part A: Music Curriculum

Music is offered across KS3 for a period of one hour dedicated teaching per week.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
Unit 1 – Djembe Drumming	Unit 1 – Rock and Roll	Unit 1 – Pop Ballads
Unit 2 – Elements of Music	Unit 2 – Musical Notation 2	Unit 2 – Rock Anthems
Unit 3 – Rhythm & Pulse	Unit 3 – Keyboard Skills 2	Unit 3 – Keyboard Skills 3
Unit 4 – Musical Notation	Unit 4 – Samba	Unit 4 – Dance Music
Unit 5 – Instruments of the Orchestra	Unit 5 – Film, TV & Video Game Music	Unit 5 – Song Composition
Unit 6 – Keyboard Skills 1		

KS4 children receive 5 hours per fortnight. KS4 follows WJEC Performing Arts – Music/Music Technology Pathway. Children complete 3 units over a two-year period, two of which are internally assessed. The units include:

- Unit 1: Performance
- Unit 2: Creating
- Unit 3: Performing Arts in Practice

A more detailed breakdown of the course requirements can be found here:

https://www.wjec.co.uk/qualifications/level-12-vocational-award-in-performing-arts/#tab_keydocuments

Part B: Extra-Curricular Music

Extra-curricular music at Ellis Guilford School is treated with the highest priority. Every Year 7 child joining the school is given the opportunity to receive one to one and small group tuition with a specialist music

tutor on a weekly basis. This also includes the loan of instrument, for free, for the duration of their tuition within school.

At Ellis Guilford School we recognise the profound effect musicianship can have a child both enhancing their cognitive development as well as fostering a lifelong appreciation of the arts. Instrumental tuition continues after Year 7 at a heavily subsidised cost, and we encourage all children to continue their learning. No child should be held back by financial constraint and there are subsidies and grants available to children from backgrounds where monetary assistance is required.

We offer tuition on the following instruments: Violin, Viola, Cello, Clarinet, Flute, Saxophone (Alto and Tenor), Trumpet, Trombone, Guitar, Drums, Piano and Voice. Children making exceptional progress are offered the opportunity to complete grades following the ABRSM board.

After school our 'Ellis Electives' include the choir, instrumental practice and school show rehearsals. Children can make further progress by representing EGS at Trust level with Voices Foundation and Trust Orchestra which includes several visits around the country for specialist workshops and performances. In-school clubs and Trust visits are free of charge.

Part C: Musical Experiences

Every child at Ellis Guilford School is invited to participate in the school shows. This annually consists of one full scale musical and a concert including a tour of local primary schools. Every year we have children from every year group perform on our stage to both parents, and local primary schools.

In addition to this we take regular trips to see concerts and performances at the professional venues in Nottingham City Centre. This may vary from a musical, to a concert or orchestra or other musically based performances. There may be a requirement for a small charge for these trips from time to time, however, they will always be subsidised, and financial assistance is available for those in need.

Future Developments

All outstanding music departments have one eye towards the future and at Ellis Guilford School we are no different.

There are long-term plans to extend the extracurricular offer to include orchestral ensembles.

We have already extended our KS3 curriculum to include world music such as Samba and African Drumming and these link to wider world will continue to grow as will our integration of Music Technology into the daily curriculum as we continue to further support our excellent grades at KS4.

The school's hall, our main venue for performances, is also scheduled for a massive renovation which will include the additional provision for children to perform and technically support music performance both in and out of school time.

Further Information

For extra support, advice and information on how to engage with music provision in the area and extend

your child's progress through music please visit the following government advice site:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/musiceducation-information-for-parents-and-young-people>