Music development plan summary:

Dixons Fazakerley Academy - Liverpool

This document is designed to give a summary of the high-quality music provision at this academy in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, considering the key features in the national plan for music education:

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for Key Stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	October 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 2027
Name of the academy music lead	Giselle Lee
Name of local music hub	Resonate Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Dixons Academies Trust - Director of Music, Tamsin Rafnsson

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.

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 students can achieve.

- At KS3, the students at Dixons Fazakerley Academy have one timetabled lesson of music per week throughout the school year.
- Students are provided with the opportunity to develop their knowledge of a wide range of musical genres through listening, composing and performing activities.
- Whole-class ensemble teaching in Years 7, 8 and 9 supports the students to develop their instrumental playing of a variety of drums and percussion instruments, the keyboard and the ukulele.
- At KS4, the students study the BTEC Tech Award in Music Practice. Year 10 students have five timetabled lessons every two weeks while Year 11 students have six timetabled lessons every two weeks throughout the school year.
- The principles of the music curriculum, the overview of the curriculum and the long-term plans can be found on the school website and accessed here.

Part B: Extra-curriculum 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.

- Outside of the taught lesson time, students in Year 7 and those studying music at KS4, are provided with the opportunity to develop their instrumental playing and singing in small-group peripatetic lessons. They can choose from Drums, Bass, Guitar, Piano and Voice and participate in these lessons for one Cycle of the academic year. At KS4, the students participate in these lessons throughout the duration of the course.
- These lessons are paid for by the school, encouraging the students to engage in music and develop their skills and talents.
- Students are also given the opportunity to develop their musical skills further by taking part in a number of extra-curricular activities. These include a vocal group, keyboard club and rock band.
- Students are welcome to use the facilities within the music department to practice in their own time under the supervision of their music teacher.
- Outside of lesson time, students are also encouraged to engage with the activities available to them at the local music hub. This includes the 'Let's Play' Orchestra, Resonate Youth Philharmonic, Resonate Brass and Resonate Sessions-Rock and Pop.
- The music hub, Resonate, also offers students the opportunity to develop their knowledge of music theory through their music theory programme. This results in them gaining the ABRSM Grade 5 music theory qualification.

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.

- Open evening: opportunities for students to perform and showcase work produced in music lessons or clubs.
- Dixons Cup: last year the school entered year 7, 8, 9 and 11 students for the Dixons cup competition. There are bronze, silver and gold awards available for the students to win and entrants are celebrated within the academy.
- Christmas Carolling at a Nursing Home, 8th December 2026: this showcases students' musical talents and prepares them for other volunteering events in the community
- Christmas concert, 14th December: offering our students the opportunity to showcase their talent in a performance for the community, friends and family.
- Collaborative singing concert, summer term: this will involve members of the school singing group to perform alongside other singers in the trust and an event in Bradford at St. Georges Hall.
- Summer showcase, summer 27: students will be given the opportunity to perform and showcase songs for a school showcase.
- Resonate Music Hub: students are aware and encouraged to attend musical groups across the city run by the local music hub.

In the future

This is about what the school is planning for subsequent years. Over the coming academic year, we plan to make improvements to the music provision available to our students by:

- Starting lunch time mini concerts to increase the exposure of students' music talent.
- Starting large-scale productions to provide a larger variety of performing experiences.
- Offering an increased number of educational visits relating to the curriculum and supporting the students to access live music outside of the classroom.
- Offering opportunities for student composers and producers to present their own works publicly.

Further information

Please find below some useful links which you may find helpful when considering your child's musical experiences inside and outside the academy:

- Resonate music hub
- Model music curriculum
- National curriculum for music
- Liverpool Philharmonic