

North Heath Community Primary School



Music Development Plan Summary

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	November 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Katie Hope & Miss Kellie Dew
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	West Sussex Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils 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 pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils’ 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 pupils can achieve.

At North Heath Community Primary School, we intend to promote pupils’ enjoyment of music through our curriculum and aim to deliver music teaching which encourages and inspires. Through music at North Heath Community Primary School we seek to ensure that all pupils: are encouraged to regard music and singing as enjoyable and rewarding by developing confidence in performing; have opportunities to reflect on music and songs across a range of historical periods, genres and cultures and are supported to develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music. We

promote our school values 'Kindness, Courage and Creativity' through our music lessons.

You will find a summary of our music progression of skills in the 'Curriculum overview' section on our website <https://northheathprimary.co.uk/our-curriculum/> . Music is detailed from p26 in our progression of skills and knowledge document.

Children have 45 mins of classroom music per week, as well as 30 mins of singing practice per week during assembly time.

By the end of their journey in music at our school pupils will:

- Understand how music has changed over time.
- Be able to perform using their voices and a range of musical instruments
- Be able to listen and appraise a range of musical pieces and styles
- Know how to compose and improvise
- Know how to read simple musical notation and use a range of musical terms.
- Know and name some great composers and musicians and the time period they influenced.

The music curriculum follows the Charanga 'Model Music Curriculum Scheme' from YR-Y6 and is in line with the non-statutory Model Music Curriculum from the DfE. We follow the ethos of Charanga - *Music is fundamental to our humanity and civilization. Every child deserves the opportunity to engage with music of all styles and from all cultures, in order to develop their own musical journey.* The Scheme provides clearly sequenced units and lessons with week-by-week support for each year group. Each unit involves a variety of musical activities, centred around given songs. The following activities are incorporated into the lessons:

- Understanding Music
- Listen and Respond
- Learn to Sing the Song
- Play Your Instruments with the Song
- Improvise with the Song
- Composition - Compose with the Song, Create a Graphic Score (KS1) Compose with a Theme, Music Notepad, Quickbeats (KS2 only)
- Perform the Song

For each of the musical activities listed above, there are associated knowledge and skills and key learning and outcomes - what the children will learn and what the children will understand/know/demonstrate.

In addition, all year groups have the opportunity to perform songs for a Christmas performance.

EYFS - music in the foundation stage is an integral part of our approach to Expressive Arts and Being Imaginative. Music contributes to a child's personal and social development. A range of approaches are used including singing at various points in the day, short whole class sessions, group sessions and continuous provision, both inside and outside.

The following are the opportunities for all children to play an instrument during classroom music lessons:

Reception - Year 6: Children learn to play the glockenspiel throughout their time at North Heath. This involves exploration, specific teaching, and playing as an accompaniment to the songs sung in their lessons.

Year 3 & Year 4: Children learn to play the recorder for one term in Year 3 and then further develop these skills for one term in Year 4. Children have the opportunity to practise their recorder learning at home each week and parents/carers are encouraged to support this.

We adopt a positive and proactive approach to ensure that children with SEND are able to express themselves and take an active part in music lessons. We aim to provide Quality First Teaching to all children. Adaptations to support this may include visual prompts, headphones, considering the layout of the room, simpler visual representations of musical notation, as well as open ended opportunities during improvisation and composition for greater depth children to thrive. Our 'Ordinarily Available Inclusive Practice' and 'More able indicators and strategies' music documents are available on our website.

Part B: Co-curricular music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

We are proud to offer the following individual and small group tuition, through peripatetic music teachers:

1:1 Piano lessons

1:1 Flute lessons

1:1 Violin lessons

1:1 or Small group guitar lessons

'Rocksteady' – small group 'band' sessions involving a selection of instruments: piano, variety of guitars and drums, as well as singing. The Rocksteady aims are to boost student confidence, well-being, resilience, and teamwork by teaching musical instruments, regardless of prior experience.

Some opportunities for small group singing performances during Christmas plays and / or class assemblies.

Pupils showcase their learning at concerts for parents and carers at the end of each term (Rocksteady) and once a year (1:1 sessions).

Tuition is paid for by parents / carers and lessons take place within the school day. Pupil Premium funding is being used where appropriate to offer children funded places in the music groups, such as Rocksteady.

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.

All pupils are involved in singing in assemblies. Often, after learning particular songs during weekly singing assemblies, these songs are sung as a whole school during celebration assemblies. This will often include the songs being split into different parts, with particular year groups being allocated their parts to sing in harmony.

Pupils have the chance, throughout the year, to be an audience for a class assembly. These include songs performed by the class related to the topic, as well as sometimes including a musical instrument performance, such as with recorders or glockenspiels. Pupils with siblings attend all sibling performances.

During the Year 6 residential, they participate in a variety of 'Call and Response' songs and campfire songs. On return, the Year 6 children lead one of these songs during an assembly, with the whole school participating.

At the end of each term, pupils attend a Rocksteady band performance, in which the pupil group perform the song they have been working on with their rock band. Once a year, pupils attend a piano and a guitar recital and hear pieces of music that the pupils have been working on in their 1:1 music lessons.

Once a year, classes will attend the dress rehearsal of another year group's Christmas performance, either in the school hall or at the local church. Siblings also attend the corresponding year group's performance.

Once a year, Year 5 attend Bohunt School in Horsham to be an audience for a show put on by the secondary school pupils, this year being 'Oliver!'

West Sussex Music Service provide a range of opportunities for children to take part in workshops and music groups during weekends and/or school holidays in Horsham, Crawley and Worthing locations. Details of many of these opportunities are provided to parents / carers via e-mailed posters or are highlighted in the Headteacher's newsletter, for example an inclusive SEND music group and a 'Noisy Kids' concert with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. Many of these opportunities with West Sussex Music Service have a number of funded places available for families receiving benefit-related free school meals.

In the future

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

Three things that North Heath School would like to improve in the coming years:

Year 5 classes being taught to play the djembe drum for one term using planning and resources from drumsforschools.com. After evaluation, this could be extended to another year group or a small group club session.

Charanga resources for Key Stage 2 reviewed, with particular focus on the range of songs containing glockenspiel accompaniments appropriate to primary school level.

Development of a lunchtime singing club, in which a small group could practise the assembly songs with the view of standing up the front in assemblies as 'leaders'.

Further information (optional)

Useful links:

West Sussex Music: www.westsussexmusic.co.uk

The Department for Education guide for parents and young people on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people>