

Music development plan summary: Woodford Halse CE Primary Academy

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account 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

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Alison Crockford
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	NMPAT
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rock Steady

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 Woodford Halse CE Primary Academy we are developing our children's love of music through a variety of whole class lessons, individual lesson, workshops and experiences. Research has shown that Music is beneficial to our mental wellbeing, not just from the point of view of entertainment but that Music and Music Education and therapies have a physiological effect on the brain that improves mental health ([Brain Behav Immun Health](#). 2021 Dec).

We have embarked on using the Dimensions 'Learning means the World' curriculum which maps out music skills and knowledge progression from early years through to year 6. Music is taught throughout the year in blocks as it appears in the core units set out by the Dimensions curriculum. Through these lessons, children will find out about different genres of music, learn musical terminology, use both tuned and untuned instruments and compose simple scores using notation techniques.

As part of our 'Learning means the World' curriculum, teachers have high expectations for all children, including children with SEND. The teachers make appropriate adaptations made to lessons to ensure that they are accessible for all. Appropriate targets are set and measured to allow all children

Together with guidance from the Dimensions curriculum our Music lessons aim to:

- Give opportunities for pupils to listen carefully, fine-tuning their auditory skills and develop their ability to evaluate and appraise.
- Increase pupils' confidence through self-expression and performance, as well as providing a sense of achievement.
- Provide pupils with a range of vocabulary to describe features of different musical styles and genres so they can articulate their responses towards these.
- Help pupils appreciate and understand a wide range of cultures.
- Improve their use of voice through singing.
- Provide pupils with the opportunity to use technology appropriately, to enhance and communicate their own compositions and performances.

As a school we make full use of our partnership with the local music Hub. All available funding is used to support groups within our school. Children in KS2 are provided with a 'First Access' music programme, where they will learn either drums, strings or brass from a fully qualified music instructor who is an expert in their instrument. Detailed provision is always made, through consultation with the hub, to provide adapted instruments or other provision to allow access for all children at an appropriate level. This provision culminates in a performance to the wider school community. We also access singing groups through our Hub to support well being in a year group that might benefit.

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 at our school to provide our children with an array of musical offers beyond the classroom. This includes access to peripatetic music lessons for piano, keyboard, guitar, violin and cello. We also have access to woodwind and brass tuition as demand dictates. These lessons are subsidised for those in receipt of pupil premium and there is the ability to take an instrument on loan where required. This is all managed through NMPAT. Children's progress is recorded by the instrument teachers and reported to parents twice annually. From these lessons, children are invited to further provision provided by the Hub at the weekends and attend the associated concerts.

In addition to the peripatetic instrument lessons, we also provide electric instrument lessons in small groups in conjunction with the school's music provider 'Rocksteady'. The children are formed into bands with other children in their phases to learn to play music collaboratively. This also included vocals and singing tuition. All instruments are provided by Rocksteady, including electric drum kits, guitars, bass guitars and microphones. There is then a concert to celebrate success at the end of the term at Christmas, Easter and just before the summer break. Families in receipt of pupil premium are eligible for reduced fees, as a school we also offer bursary places for children who might benefit from the lessons but are otherwise unable to attend.

We offer an extra-curricular club for children in KS2 to attend choir. At the choir, the children are given the opportunity to learn a combination of traditional and contemporary songs from around the world.

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.

For the children who take part in the extra-curricular choir club, there is an opportunity to attend the Young Voices choir concert in Birmingham. This event is a mass choir event involving thousands of young people. It provides a wonderful celebration of music, singing and dancing in a performance that the children will never forget.

Music is an integral part of our worship assemblies. Children learn and listen to a range of contemporary religious music to complement our Christian ethos. Children also sing celebration songs at Easter and Christmas at church as well as to commemorate Remembrance Day.

Every year, the children in our Early Years setting, including nursery, learn simple Christmas songs to showcase as a school production to the parents and wider community. This is joined by a KS1 nativity play where children will sing songs to tell a Christmas story and perform this for others. In the Spring Term, Years 3 and 4 will put on a school production and the Year 6 children celebrate the end of their Primary school career with a musical production as well.

The Christmas fayre is opened every year by a performance of a mixture of songs by the school choir.

In the future

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

Looking to the future, Woodford Halse Primary Academy is looking to extend our musical offering through the development of music provision in our Early Years setting, including nursery. Support from the Hub will be drawn upon to make this successful. We would also like to attend a concert at the Birmingham Symphony Hall that provides a musical experience suitable for Primary Age pupils.

As we are part of an academy trust it is also an ambition to collaborate more with our partner schools.

Review singing progression in school curriculum using Music Mark resource, 'Primary Singing Toolkit'.