

Music development plan summary: Whitkirk Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Rebecca Dougall
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	ArtForms
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.

Our music curriculum supports all the requirements of the National Curriculum from Early Years to Key Stage 2. Learning is carefully planned to build on children's knowledge and skills where pupils have the opportunity to perform, listen to, appreciate, review, and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions.

Our curriculum introduces children to music from all around the world and across generations, thereby helping them to develop an understanding of the history and cultural context of the music that they listen to and teaching them to respect traditions and communities.

Music is taught in class weekly (KS1) and fortnightly (KS2) and is informed by the model music curriculum (March 2021). Lessons are taught by class teachers or HLTAs.

Throughout their primary music curriculum journey, children will learn to play African drums (KS1) and the ukulele (KS2), as well as experimenting with a range of tuned and untuned instruments. Playing various instruments enables children to use a range of methods to create notes, as well as how to read basic notation.

Further information about music at Whitkirk can be found on our school website.

[Whitkirk Primary School - Red Kite Learning Trust - Music](#)

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.

At Whitkirk Primary School, we work in partnership with our local music hub, ArtForms, to provide high quality teaching of music outside of the classroom. In KS2, we offer small group peripatetic music lessons for drums, guitar and violin. Children take part in termly performances where parents and the rest of the school can come and watch.

Peripatetic music lessons are funded by parents. Tuition is free of charge for parents or carers with pupil premium eligibility.

Small-scale performance takes place in the local community, building on existing school links, for example at Christmas.

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.

We offer a school choir (Young Voices) and provide opportunities for these children to perform throughout the year. Other performances for all children include Harvest Festival, KS1 Nativity and KS2 Christmas Performances.

We are partnered with ArtForms, who offer many live music opportunities and extra-curricular opportunities throughout the year at a subsidised cost.

In the future

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

Curriculum music
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce live music opportunities for the school, booked through ArtForms.
Whole class instrumental
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce a wider range of instruments into lessons e.g. woodwind, percussion, strings
Singing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities for year groups/phases to perform to each other, and parents
Wider Involvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further opportunities for CPD (teaching staff)

Further information

The Department for Education publishes a [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.

Our local music hub, ArtForms, set out to:

1. To support schools and other education settings to deliver high-quality music education
2. To support young people to further develop their musical interests and talent, including into employment
3. To support all children and young people to engage with a range of musical opportunities in and out of school

The National Plan also outlines five strategic functions for Music Hubs to deliver on together with their partners: Partnerships, Schools, Progression and musical development, Inclusion and sustainability. All music hubs engage with school leaders, working with them to implement their own School Music Development Plan (SMDP) which is a requirement of the new National Plan, and assisting those schools undertaking Artsmark.