Music development plan summary: 2025-2026 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	Mrs Robson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	N/A
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rock Steady Mrs Yarrow- specialist music teacher

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.

To read in more detail about the provision music at Shanklea Primary School, please visit our music curriculum page: Shanklea Primary School – Music and mixed year group planning: CM Mixed-age-Music-LongTermPlan_04.10.24.pdf All children throughout school from Y1- Y6 have one hour of music per week where as EYFS follow: Curriculum-Progression-EYFS.pdf

The Kapow scheme of work fulfils the statutory requirements for music outlined in the National Curriculum (2014) and follows the principles outlined in the non-statutory Ofsted Research review series: Music and HM Government's National Plan for Music which explains how to build on the Department for Education's Model Music Curriculum (2021) to deliver high quality music in schools.

The DfE's Model Music Curriculum 2021 states that: 'In Years 3 or 4, it is recommended that each class should start a whole-class instrumental programme

lasting a minimum of one term.' As part of the Kapow Primary scheme, each unit of lessons focuses on music from a different part of the world and features a bespoke piece of music composed specifically for the scheme and includes sheet music, performance and backing tracks. This is in Year 3/4 Cycle A.

Listening and evaluating

Listening to music is important to develop an appreciation for music but listening with a critical ear also allows pupils to recognise how music is constructed and how it impacts the listener.

Listening and evaluating is therefore the precursor to Improvising and composing and Performing.

By exposing pupils to a diverse range of music from various cultures and historical periods, this strand also fosters an understanding of the history of music.

Creating sounds

Learning technical proficiency with an instrument takes time, and the ability to create and control sound is fundamental to making music.

This proficiency requires knowledge of specific instruments, including how to hold and play them, as well as the development of fine (and sometimes gross) motor skills and postural awareness.

When it comes to singing, controlling breathing and voice modulation to create dynamic contrasts is crucial.

Notation

In order to compose and perform longer pieces of music, pupils need to understand notation as a means of communicating musical ideas.

They will learn that the position of notes on the stave indicates their pitch, and that the symbols used represent the duration of each note or rest.

Our aim is for pupils to be able to 'work out' how to read a simple piece of music from a given starting note by applying the principles of staff notation, rather than reading music by sight or simply memorising musical pieces. See <a href="https://example.com/heres/ber

Improvising and composing

Improvisation in music involves creating music spontaneously, without prior planning or written notes. This helps pupils build confidence, express themselves freely, and develop flexibility in their musical thinking.

Composition tasks require students to plan and structure their musical ideas. This structured approach strengthens their ability to organise thoughts systematically and often use notation to record their ideas.

Find out more about the composing process here.

Performing - singing and playing

Performing provides pupils with a practical reason to hone and apply their musical skills.

It promotes group practice and collaboration, as pupils work together to achieve an aim.

This experience not only boosts pupils' confidence and self-esteem but also enhances their awareness of themselves and others within the group.

Find out more about the group practising process here.

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Mixed-age long-term plan

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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.

In school families can pay for private lessons in keyboard and guitar through Northumberland Music Service, these are taught in small groups. We do have subsided places for pupil premium families.

We also work with Rock Steady, parents/ carers can pay for small group tuition in singing, electric guitar or the drums. We do have subsided places for pupil premium families. Groups rehearse in the hall.

Across the autumn term, Mrs Robson also runs a choir after school who can perform at the Christmas fair and within the local community. This is free for Y1-Y6 to attend. Groups rehearse in the hall and in the classrooms.

Children will have the opportunity to perform or experience high quality music this academic year. Please see below for a list of those opportunities:

- The choir will perform at the School Christmas Fair and local elderly people's home.
- All children from Nursery to Year 6 perform at Christmas.
- Y5/6 lead a carol service at the local community church.
- EYFS and KS1 have Easter performances.
- Y6 have an end of year performance for the whole school and parents/carers.
- Children accessing Rock Steady perform termly to parents/ carers termly.

Children attending the paid music sessions for guitar and keyboard perform termly to parents and the school.

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.

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- Children accessing Rock Steady perform termly to parents/ carers termly.
- Singing assemblies once every two weeks led by music lead, Mrs Robson (KS1-KS2). Reception can attend in the summer term. (Target from last year).

Children attending the paid music sessions for guitar and keyboard perform termly to parents and the school.

In the future

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

- To further increase performance opportunities for our young musicians throughout the school year.
- To organise more opportunities for whole classes to learn to play an instrument and perform for parents/carers.
- Further develop engagement in extra-curricular music for pupil premium and SEND children.