

Music development plan summary: Woodside Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026/2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Steve Woodyatt
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Hannah Pickles (Curriculum lead)
Name of local music hub	Dudley Performing Arts
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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 Woodside Primary School, we take pride in our comprehensive music curriculum, designed to nurture creativity, confidence, and a love for music in all our pupils. Each year group enjoys scheduled music lessons, alongside dedicated singing practice sessions.

Our curriculum is built around the Charanga Music Scheme, a thoroughly planned, step-by-step approach to teaching music that caters to the diverse needs of children aged 5 to 11. This scheme aligns with the national curriculum in England, ensuring clear progression and development across all year groups.

The Charanga Music Scheme focuses on three key areas:

- **Listening and Appraising**
- **Creating and Exploring**
- **Performing Through Singing and Instrument Playing**

Using interactive teaching resources and engaging visual aids, the scheme is accessible for both specialist and non-specialist teachers, making music education both effective and enjoyable.

Our Musical Units of Work follow a repetition-based approach to learning, helping children deepen their understanding of musical concepts by revisiting them through varied activities. This

spiral method allows pupils to master skills over time, building both familiarity and deeper insights into music. Importantly, repeating a musical skill is not a sign of slow progress—it simply reflects the natural flow of learning, where growth shifts within the spiral rather than moving backward.

Through these lessons, our pupils gain hands-on experience playing the recorder and the glockenspiel, enriching their musical journey and fostering practical skills alongside theoretical knowledge.

To explore our full curriculum, visit our website for more details.

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.

Woodside Primary School is proud to collaborate with Rock Steady to offer high-quality music tuition for our pupils. Lessons are available both one-to-one and in group settings, covering drums, guitar, piano, and vocals (£35.66 or £34.85 per month, bursary match funding also available).

Half termly Rock Steady concerts are scheduled to allow children within the school opportunities to perform and listen to live music.

In addition, we run a free after-school key stage 2 choir ensemble, providing children the opportunity to develop their singing skills while exploring a wide range of songs together. Our choir also engages with the local community by visiting care homes to sing for residents during the Christmas season, bringing joy and fostering meaningful connections through music.

We are fortunate to work with Dudley Performing Arts. Dudley Performing Arts come and sing with our nursery children every week. As a result, our youngest are working together as a team to enjoy music and express themselves. They listen to and then sing songs which is a perfect way for a child to explore the rhythm of language and practice pronunciation skills.

Dudley Performing Arts come and teach our year 4 children clarinet as part of their music curriculum. Learning the clarinet in Year 4 offers primary school children a unique opportunity to develop musical skills, boost confidence through performance, enhance concentration and teamwork, and ignite a lifelong appreciation for the arts.

Our themed assemblies introduce children to a wide variety of music from various genres, cultures, and time periods. Each assembly highlights a specific style or composer, complemented by brief discussions or presentations to deepen their understanding and appreciation of the diversity in music.

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.

At Woodside Primary School, music is an integral part of our school life, enriching both our curriculum and community events. During whole school assemblies, children come together to sing as a collective, fostering a sense of unity and joy. Our nativities and Year 6 leavers' play provide wonderful opportunities for students to showcase their musical and performance talents. Regular Rocksteady concerts inspire creativity and enthusiasm for music, while our annual pantomime allows pupils to explore musical storytelling in a fun and engaging way. For our youngest learners in Early Years, singing nursery rhymes builds foundational musical skills and nurtures their love for music from an early age. Through these diverse musical experiences, we aim to cultivate a lifelong appreciation of music in every child.

Our annual pantomime provides children with the valuable opportunity to experience live singing, enhancing their appreciation for live performances and musical storytelling.

Our special class assemblies designed to celebrate key festivals throughout the year expose our children to a wide variety of music from other cultures.

In the future

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

Establish Partnerships with Local Musicians and Groups Collaborate with local bands, orchestras, or individual musicians to host live music workshops and performances at the school. These events should inspire students, introduce them to diverse musical genres, and provide hands-on experiences with professional performers.

Organise Regular Live Music Events Bi - annual Trust live arts and music showcases where children can perform for their peers, families, and the community. These could include talent shows, or themed concerts featuring soloists, ensembles, and the school choir, creating a platform for budding musicians to share their talents.

Incorporate Live Performances into the Curriculum Arrange visits to live concerts, music festivals, or theatre productions as part of the educational experience.