

Music development plan summary: Boughton-under-Blean and Dunkirk Methodist Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	November 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Naomi Foxall
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Kent Music Hub
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.

Intent

Our Music curriculum is designed to cover all the knowledge and understanding as set out in the National Curriculum. Our curriculum follows a sequence that builds upon and revisits previous learning. To ensure that pupils develop a secure knowledge, it is organised into a cyclical and progressive model that provides breadth and balance, ensuring the development of musical concepts, knowledge and skills alongside a love for music. The ambitious and inclusive nature of the curriculum allows a range of access points that ensure all children, including those who are disadvantaged or those with special educational needs, succeed, regardless of their circumstances through high expectations set for everyone. We provide purposeful opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, to develop the skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to

begin to make judgements about the quality of music. Pupils perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. Children learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument and use technology appropriately. They explore how music is created, produced and communicated with increased complexity over time, including through the interrelated dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Implementation

As the requirements for music in the National Curriculum are broad, we at Boughton-under-Blean and Dunkirk Primary School have developed a planning document that breaks down wider objectives into clear 'Children can' statements for every year group. These statements are separated into different strands of music and show the progression of skills being taught from Early Years to upper Key Stage Two. The music curriculum links to topics that are being covered in class where possible.

Our EYFS follows the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. Through Expressive Arts, children are taught to sing songs, make music and dance. Children are given opportunities to experiment with ways of changing sound and develop an understanding of pulse, rhythm and pitch. They are also encouraged to use everyday objects to make music and create sound and to experiment with sound using objects made from different materials such as wood, metal and plastic.

Music at KS1 is divided into 3 strands. Through singing, pupils are taught about pitch, tempo, and dynamics. Through composing and improvising, pupils are taught about rhythmic and pitch pattern, how musical notation represents sounds and how to create and improvise music. Through musicianship and performing, pupils learn pulse and beat linked to tempo. Pupils are taught rhythm and introduced to dot notation in order to recognise and match notes on a simple instrument.

Music at KS2 builds on learning in KS1 and is divided into 5 strands. Through singing, pupils are taught to sing in rounds, sing in unison, sing different time signatures and perform songs. Through improvising, pupils are taught to structure their musical ideas, refine the types of sounds made, create music with a beginning/middle/end, make compositional decisions on their improvisations and incorporate dynamics. Through composing, pupils are taught to compose song accompaniments, combine rhythmic notation to create phrases, compose music to a specific mood or desired effect and explore features of notation and time signatures. Through instrumental performance, pupils are taught to play and perform using tuned percussion or melodic instrument, play melodies following staff notation, develop the skill of playing by ear and engage with others through ensemble playing or singing. Through reading notation: pupils are taught to

understand the stave and read music. In order to build on and nurture children's prior learning and experiences, our curriculum is structured through half termly plans that progress across year groups and key stages.

Glockenspiels are used for class music for a term in Year 2 and in Year 4 and Recorders are taught for a term of class music in Year 4. In Year 5, students learn ukulele, giving the children a practical and engaging opportunity with their music education.

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.

One to one music lessons are offered to all pupils on piano, violin, recorder, guitar, ukulele, drums and flute. Group lessons take place on the recorder. Whole class tuition is provided on ukulele, recorder and glockenspiel. Individual and group lessons offered by peripatetic teachers invoice the parents individually. There are opportunities for lessons to be subsidised for Pupil Premium children.

Instruments are often lent out or loaned to children in the school by the school or by the peripatetic music teachers. Children who learn instruments are regularly invited to weekend, after school or holiday clubs. The peripatetic music teachers offer opportunities for ensemble playing and there are opportunities for the children to perform on their instruments a few times over the year. All the peripatetic teachers offer their pupils the opportunity to take exams and awards.

76 private instrument lessons take place each week either individually or in group lessons at the school. 105 children learn, if we include the class ukulele sessions which take place weekly.

KS2 choir is open to all KS2 children and takes place for at least 2 terms across the year. It is free for all KS2 pupils to join. The choir sing at local events such as Salvation Army Carols, local W.I. events and the collaborative choir festival which takes place with other schools from our local hub. A club and trip to Young Voices is offered to year 5 and 6 children.

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 place great emphasis on singing as part of our daily Collective Worship. Music is incorporated in the following ways:

- Pianist playing music as children enter and leave worship
- Weekly choral worship, which is planned and structured for teaching new songs and hymns
- Daily singing as a whole school as part of the worship
- Reflective music when appropriate, for example, during our remembrance service
- Worship Warriors helping to lead songs and actions

Our school has a Key Stage Two choir, which runs as an after-school club. The choir performs at many community events, including:

- Christmas carols for the elderly at the local village hall & at a local home for the elderly
- St Barnabas Carol Service with the Salvation Army band
- Village Lantern Parade
- Choir festival with local primary schools
- Faversham Christmas Lights Event
- W.I. local singing event

We also participate in Young Voices, whereby children from years 5 & 6 can take part in an extra-curricular singing club, culminating in a trip to the London O2 Arena to perform with thousands of other children, as well as guest performers. Parents are invited to watch this event.

All children have the opportunity to participate in performances to an audience during their time at our school. These performances include:

- KS1 Nativity
- Year 6 Production
- Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
- Dance performances at the summer fayre
- KS1 & KS2 Wake & Shake competition
- KS1 & KS2 Dance competition
- KS2 Christmas Carol Service

We make it a priority to take part in as many musical opportunities as we can. In summer term 2025, the Year 5 children took part in an opera singing event in St Mary's Church, Faversham with performers from the Royal Opera House.

In the future

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

The priorities from the School Improvement Plan are:

- Look at how musical instruments are used across the school curriculum - what, when and how.
- Look at planning and monitor lessons through pupil voice and lesson observations
- Create a vocabulary progression document

- Introduce music for coming in and going out of collective worship to widen knowledge and experience of music

Further information (optional)

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