

Music development plan summary:

Whalton CoE Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	Feb 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	Jul 2025
Name of the school music lead	Miss N.Bowen
Name of local music hub	Music Partnership North

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.

All year groups have a weekly music lesson (1 hour) which follow the Model Music Curriculum and meet the requirements of the National Curriculum for music.

Our class teachers deliver music using customised Charanga schemes, based mainly on a combination of singing, chime bars and percussion instruments in class lessons. In addition, we create music using Boomwhackers, and use applications such as GarageBand, Chrome Music Lab and other internet resources. This year, KS2 are learning to scratch using decks!

Our schemes are developed to reflect the differing requirements at the different keystages and use a rolling timetable to accommodate our mixed-year groups. Through a school journey, children will also experience whole-class teaching from peripatetic experts, on other instruments (such as ukelele) or using their voice.

In addition to their weekly music lesson, children listen to music during our daily Collective Worship. This music is chosen to provide the children with musical cultural capital, understanding where we come from and our place in the world. It is an opportunity to encourage the children to be open-minded in their listening and a

chance to listen to a breadth of musicians and musical genres that reflect and celebrate different cultures, religions and musical history.

Children with special educational needs (SEND) are fully integrated in music lessons and are supported in playing instruments where necessary.

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 addition to curriculum-based music lessons, the school is supported in offering a wide-range of instrumental and singing lessons, using peripatetic teachers from Music Partnership North. Instruments may be hired or assisted-purchased through the hub and lessons arranged for your child to be held during the school day, on school premises. Currently in the Federation, we have children learning to sing and to play the piano, violin and drums. There are opportunities within the county for children to attend big-band/orchestral offerings within the county, out of school hours. Please contact Miss Bowen if you are interested in pursuing this further – there are minimum-entry level abilities required for these opportunities.

School has a piano which children are allowed to use at lunchtimes (on rota) for practise and other instruments are practised in the school pod.

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.

Throughout the term we have multiple opportunities for additional singing and singing performances to our wider school family of parents and relations, and to the community.

We regularly attend church services where we will sing songs as a congregation and the children will also perform songs that they have learnt as part of the occasion; celebrating Harvest Festival, Christmas and Easter and other family services throughout the year. Remembrance Day is also observed.

At Christmas we have our school Nativity which also allows for singing opportunities such as solos and small group ensembles. We run a choir group to supplement the singing practise sessions, to try and learn any harmonies that might be available. We also sing carols in the village.

In Collective Worship our singing is centred around songs celebrating our theme for Worship that week. Where possible, we try to include Makaton for these songs to make them fully accessible to all.

At Christmas the school attends pantomimes at the local Theatre, which often includes singing elements.

In the future

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

- In future we are looking at introducing a new class instrument (wind-based) for class lessons.
- We hope to include performances by our children taking lessons to encourage other children to have a go.
- We are investigating opportunities to enjoy live performances at least once a year.

Further information

Our local music hub: [Northumberland County Council - Music Partnership North](#)

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how you can get involved in music in and out of school, and where you can go to for support beyond the school.