

# Music Development Plan Summary: Western Road Community Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	January 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Rachel Callow
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	n/a
Name of local music hub	Create Music (East Sussex)
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.

- Overview of the curriculum for all subjects (including Music) is included in each term's Curriculum Newsletters, which are sent to parents and published on our website.
- Music Overview is published on Curriculum Maps on our website.
- Curriculum Access Statement is published on our website (showing how our music curriculum is inclusive for all).
- Our local music hub (Create Music East Sussex) supports us with CPD opportunities and Subject Leadership Support as well as providing instrumental tuition and other musical opportunities (see below)

At Western Road, children have weekly class music lessons (or equivalent time in longer blocks) and they participate in fortnightly singing assemblies in their Key Stage groups. They rehearse and perform at events throughout the year, including Harvest festival, Christmas shows and concerts and end of year class or year group productions. Additionally, children in one year group have whole-class instrumental

sessions for one term of the year (currently Brass Instruments), provided by a peripatetic music teacher.

Children also experience music through other curriculum subjects, for example when learning about a certain country in Geography, children may explore and study music from that country.

Music is taught by class teachers, supported by the Music Lead. We use a high-quality online music resource (Charanga), designed for non-specialist music teachers, that ensures the National Curriculum criteria across all year groups and key stages are covered. (See specific Key Stage learning objectives below). In addition to this, teachers plan and deliver music lessons based on their topic or other cross-curricular learning where appropriate. For example, when learning about Space in science children may study, explore and finally compose their own space-themed music.

**In Reception**, children participate in musical activities through their learning in Communication and Language, Physical Development and Expressive Arts and Design. Musical learning includes listening to, learning and singing a range of rhymes and songs, talking about music, responding to music with movement, dance and expressive arts, and collaborating with others to explore and create sounds and music using voices, body percussion, household objects and instruments.

**In Key Stage 1** music lessons, children:

- use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes
- play tuned and untuned instruments musically
- listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music
- experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music
- improvise and compose music using voice, body percussion and musical instruments
- begin to explore musical notation

**In Key Stage 2** music lessons, children:

- play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing tuned and untuned musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression
- improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music
- listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory use and understand staff and other musical notations
- appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians
- develop an understanding of the history of music.

**At both Key Stages**, music teaching:

- develops each of the inter-related skills of performing, composing and appraising in all activities

- extends these skills by applying listening skills and knowledge and understanding of music
- includes the use of precise, technical music vocabulary that relates to the music being studied.

In particular, by making and responding to a wide range of music, children are able to understand:

- how sounds are made, changed and organised, using the elements and structures
- how music is produced, through the use of instrumentation using symbols and notation
- how music is influenced by time and place and is affected by venue, occasion and purpose.

In **Singing Assemblies**, children:

- make progress in musical skills, using their own voice as their instrument
- share music-making spontaneously with others regardless of age, gender, background or ability
- develop ensemble singing skills
- learn a repertoire of songs from different times, places and musical styles
- prepare for important events and services
- foster a sense of belonging to the school community.

## 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 Western Road, in addition to class music lessons, our children can access:

- Choir club for children in Years 3 – 6 (free)
- Recorder club for children in Years 3, 4 and 5 (free)
- Orchestra club for children who play an instrument (free – subsidised by the school)
- 1:1 and small group tuition lessons available in the following instruments: violin, piano, keyboard, guitar, flute, brass instruments (paid by parents, subsidised by Create Music Hub/ BrassSparks)
- Children who are eligible for Pupil Premium can access further subsidies for instrument lessons.
- Music activities outside of school or during holidays (e.g. Starfish music in Lewes) are signposted to parents via school newsletter / emails
- Music Hub (Create Music) provides instrument loans / hires for those children wishing to learn an instrument.
- Dedicated music spaces for 1:1 and small group lessons.

## 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.

Children at Western Road rehearse and perform songs for events throughout the year, including Harvest festival, Christmas shows and concerts and end of year class or year group productions, including a End Of Year 6 Production. Children who learn instruments also have the opportunity to perform at these, and other, shows.

Children in one year group also have whole-class instrumental sessions for one term of the year (currently Brass Instruments), provided by a peripatetic music teacher, culminating in a performance to parents. Children also have opportunities to learn from visiting music specialists, e.g. African drumming workshops and a live performance by the local brass band.

Children in the choir club participate in a county-wide singing project organised by Create Music (East Sussex Music Hub), which culminates in a Christmas concert at Glyndebourne Opera House, where they have the opportunity to perform with members of the Glyndebourne Chorus and Orchestra.

Peripatetic music teachers organise regular musical showcases for parents, where children who learn instruments have the opportunity to perform. Choir club regularly performs to parents and carers or to other children in the school, for example in Singing Assemblies.

## In the future

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

- Refining our assessments systems to inform future music planning.
- Continued provision of whole class instrumental tuition for one year group, to ensure that all children have the opportunity to learn an instrument going forward.
- A focus on musical vocabulary to ensure that all children understand and can use subject specific vocabulary.
- Increase children's access to experiencing professional live music.