

# Music Development Plan Summary September 2024

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# Music development plan summary: Willow Tree Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 – 2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2025
Name of the school music lead	Olivia Anderson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Greater Manchester Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Music and Performing Arts Salford

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 music lessons within our curriculum involve the development of singing, listening to, improvising and composing music. Each lesson adheres to the National Curriculum by focusing on the interrelated dimensions of music, delivered through engaging, purposeful activities and songs.

The Charanga Music scheme is used to support non-specialist teachers in delivering the music curriculum, and the Sing Up Music Curriculum will be used in the forthcoming academic year to support our adherence with the Model Music Curriculum.

Pulse and rhythm are a key focus of all learning and a regularly revisited to embed key skills. These are developed through songs from a variety of genres, cultures and historical periods, including baroque, pop, classic rock and folk music. Children also develop instrumental music skills through playing tuned percussion, such as the glockenspiel, and untuned percussion within our curriculum. These instruments are

revisited throughout all year groups to encourage progression. There is a view to introduce opportunities to play the recorder within our curriculum in the future.

Music is viewed as an integral part of the EYFS curriculum and is an opportunity to develop key learning goals such as communication and language, physical development and expressive arts and design. Children practise singing daily to build a repertoire of nursery rhymes and are encouraged to move to the music. They have opportunities to express their opinions by listening to a range of music through the Charanga music scheme, and practise applying key musical vocabulary such as 'louder', 'quieter', 'fast' and 'slow'. Through continuous provision, children can explore a range of percussion instruments in indoor and outdoor areas and are taught their names.

In Key Stage 1, children are taught music for 40 minutes per week. This increases to 50-minute sessions in Key Stage 2. This contributes to the aim of children receiving 1 hour of music a week, and there is an aim to reach this time by incorporating short music sessions into the school day, such as morning starter activities.

Throughout Key Stages 1 and 2, children have the opportunity to have the curriculum delivered by a specialist, peripatetic music teacher for half a term. This allows children to develop more complex musical skills, such as singing in rounds and harmonies. This opportunity is rotated regularly so that each class this experience at least once throughout the school year.

Singing is at the heart of our music curriculum and is the key focus of progression. Therefore, further opportunities to develop singing are provided through weekly, 30-minute singing assemblies. Children engage with vocal warm-ups, discussions using key musical vocabulary, games to refine a sense of rhythm and pitch and a wide repertoire of songs. This session is delivered by a specialist music teacher and includes songs suggested by Sing Up and Out of the Ark. Children sing a variety of songs linked to school values and celebrations and work together to sing in rounds and different parts.

In Year 4, all children participate in Whole Class Instrument Tuition (delivered by MAPAS) by learning to play the steel pans. Children have warm-ups focusing on rhythm, pitch and pulse, followed by practising pieces of music. This continues throughout the academic year, followed by an end-of-year performance at the local theatre in celebration. The opportunity for Whole Class Instrument Tuition is highly valued in our school, and so we aim to offer this to other year groups with a focus on string instruments in the near future.

To ensure we deliver a high-quality curriculum with regular musical opportunities, we work closely with MAPAS – our local music organisation in partnership with our Music Hub. This enables us to offer a wide range of opportunities for our children engage with music, while ensuring that they are gaining the key knowledge and skills required in primary school.

## **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.

Our school works closely with MAPAS (in partnership with our local Music Hub) to deliver individual music tuition within school. Children receive a 30-minute session per week on a one-to-one basis with their MAPAS tutor. They are provided with a quiet space within school to do this. Currently, there are children in school learning to play the piano, keyboard and guitar, although MAPAS offers tuition for a range of brass, string and woodwind instruments, as well as vocal tuition. Accessibility is increased by the free loan of instruments to pupils and a discount on lesson fees for children eligible for Pupil Premium. As well as individual tuition, children may join a group/ensemble within MAPAS sessions. This allows children to get together to perform as a group. Music performances for MAPAS students are also organised by MAPAS, including concerts at local theatres.

Children in Years 5 and 6 have the opportunity to join the school choir, led by a specialist music teacher. The choir currently has over 30 members and rehearses for 45 minutes weekly. In addition, the choir has termly opportunities to perform their music to a range of audiences. This includes in school assemblies, Christmas concerts and church community performances. There is no fee for children to join choir and sessions are delivered during the school day for all children in Years 5 and 6. We have a range of children in our school choir, including children eligible for Pupil Premium and children with SEND.

Children in EYFS and KS1 have the opportunity to perform musically in an annual Nativity production, in which all children take part in singing and moving to music. Some children also contribute to the performance with untuned percussion instruments.

## 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.

Singing assemblies are weekly occurrences in school and are integral to developing the skill of singing. This is further developed for children in Years 5 and 6 who are able to join choir at any point in the year. Children in the choir have regular opportunities to perform for other children in school, their parents and the local community.

Children in Year 4 perform at the local Lowry theatre to showcase their playing of the steel pans from their Whole Class Instrument Tuition. Parents are also invited to this event.

MAPAS occasionally visit school to deliver an assembly in which they demonstrate a range of instruments available to learn through private tuition. This allows children to experience instruments they may not have heard of or seen before, encouraging them to take up an instrument themselves at a low cost, due to the free instrument loans offered.

Children in all year groups have visited theatres and concerts when the opportunity has arisen, however we aim to increase the frequency of such visits to broaden children's musical experiences.

Wider musical experiences have been delivered through enrichment days, such as flamenco singing and dancing on Spanish Enrichment Day.

In partnership with PE, we realise the importance of dance and moving expressively to music. Dance is taught as part of our PE curriculum to a range of different musical styles, for example Street Dance or Carnival.

## In the future

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

- To ensure that the music curriculum embeds progression of key knowledge and skills, the Sing Up Music Curriculum will be implemented in the next academic year. This will especially help with purposeful assessment of learning in music.
- Staff will receive CPD to develop their own subject knowledge and musicianship. Resources from Sing Up will be used to support this. This can be delivered by the music lead, who has sufficient music knowledge to support other teachers.
- We will explore chances for short musical opportunities within the school day to ensure that children are receiving at least 1 hour of music a week. This is likely to be delivered as morning starter sessions or at the end of the day and may involve listening to a piece of music recommended by the Sing Up Curriculum or the Model Music Curriculum.
- Wider musical opportunities will be a key focus to develop our music curriculum. We aim to ensure that children have an opportunity to watch live music at least once a year, either through visits to venues or school visitors. The school choir and children receiving private music lessons should have termly opportunities to showcase their talent in a performance for the school. The music lead will liaise with the Head Teacher, specialist music teacher/choir lead and Personal Development lead to achieve this.

## Further information (optional)

Our school receives support from Music And Performing Arts Salford, in partnership with Greater Manchester Music Hub, to deliver wider music opportunities. Children and parents are signposted to their website to receive further information and register for music tuition: [Home \(sclmapas.co.uk\)](http://sclmapas.co.uk)