

Music development plan summary: Bidston Avenue 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	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Lauren Montgomery
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Miss Lauren Brookes
Name of local music hub	Edsential
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Over the Water Choirs

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

Our curriculum develops all aspects of a child's learning from the physical action of using an instrument to the mathematical skills needed to keep a pulse. As a school, we seek to nurture every child's love of music both within and outside of school, offering an after-school club and opportunities to perform for different purposes and a variety of audiences, creating memories to last a lifetime. This helps children to achieve excellence and aspire to greater things. Through quality first teaching children work together, embrace other cultures, explore emotions, develop a clear understanding of musical terminology and how to read and respond to musical notation. All 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. All pupils 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, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.

We publish the school curriculum for music for each year group online and this outlines how we meet the needs of all pupils.

Each week, children receive 30 minutes singing and at least 40 minutes Music teaching. Our curriculum, which is built around the Charanga Music School programme, ensures that our children gain a deep understanding of what music is through listening, playing, evaluating, analysing and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions and musical genres. This broad diet encompasses everything from Albinoni to Adele, developing an understanding, appreciation and respect for all types of music and the range of emotions and meanings that it can convey.

Year 3 have their music taught by a peripatetic music teacher, allowing the teachers to develop their subject knowledge and children to learn to play an instrument.

All pupils understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations whilst learning to play glockenspiels, recorders, violins and ukuleles through KS1 and KS2.

We have a strong partnership with local choirs where children in KS1 and KS2 have the opportunity to perform in and out of school e.g. Christmas services, local choir events, charity performances.

Part B: Co-curricular music

We partner with Edsential who provide 1:1 tuition in Violin and Guitar and also with a local choir for weekly vocal tuition.

Children can join the choir that is very active in the local community - performing at the local Church, providing vocals on local artists' released music, performing at local venues to raise money e.g. Eurovision

Children are loaned instruments e.g. Guitars, Violins, in order to rehearse what they have learned at home. They are also signposted to a 'Music Holiday Club' over the holidays with Future Yard.

Children are offered tuition, which is directly arranged and subsidised via Edsential (Cheshire/Wirral) Music Hub. Sessions are taught on school site during the school week from music instrument teachers.

Weekly school choir sessions are subsidised for Pupil Premium children.

Part C: Musical experiences

We recognise that for children to aspire and be successful academically they need to be given rich and sustained opportunities to develop their cultural capital. This is achieved through accumulation of behaviour, knowledge and skills to make a valuable contribution to society. We provide a range of opportunities to explore music from a variety of cultures, eras and genres and create an ethos where children can give their opinions in a safe environment where mutual respect is promoted. Children are encouraged to express their creativity through improvisation and composition using both their voices and instruments with increasing confidence and control.

Activities such as performing in an ensemble, during lessons, assemblies, church performances and choir, enhance essential skills such as turn taking, collaboration and confidence. Further to this, children are offered wider musical experiences such as West End theatre trips, MoshTots visiting the school, performing for the local community, instrumental lessons (violin, ukulele, guitar) and weekly choir sessions with a music specialist. The choir has performed at a variety of events many of which raise vital funds for the local community and charities such as Radio City Cash for Kids (performed at the Liverpool Anglican Cathedral), and The Concert for Peace (which raised money for Doctors without Borders). Children have also featured on Bill Ryder-Jones' album, a local musician, which was released in January 2024 to much acclaim.

See this webpage for further music information: [Bidston Avenue Choir Webpage](#)

All these musical opportunities allow children to achieve excellence and aspire to be the best they can be both in the classroom and beyond.

Events are free for children, but parents/carers are invited to buy tickets to attend events.

In the future

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

- Increase the size of the choir
- Offer a wider variety of instrument tuition - brass/ further strings.
- Offer a broader variety of musical experiences- especially live music
- Raise the profile of orchestral music and challenge misconceptions on classical music being dated

Further information

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

Local Music Hub- <https://edsential.com/>