

Music development plan summary

Barrs Court Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 25
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 26
Name of the school music lead	Miss Duce-Jones
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	WEMA
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.

The music curriculum at Barrs Court Primary School is informed by the non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 3. At Barrs Court, classroom music is taught by class teachers and trained Higher Level Teaching Assistants, supported by the Charanga Music Programme. We ensure that all staff are confident in delivering high-quality music education through regular continuing professional development (CPD), and all staff take an active role in developing and promoting the school's singing strategy.

Music lessons are taught weekly for all classes every other term. In the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, pupils receive 30 minutes of music education each week, while Key Stage 2 pupils receive 45 minutes weekly. In Key Stage 1, children learn to play the recorder, developing early instrumental technique and musical understanding. In Key Stage 2, pupils learn to play a range of instruments, including

the ukulele, African drums and the glockenspiel, and all Key Stage 2 pupils have regular opportunities to sing and perform to others. In addition, pupils learn to compose and produce music using technology, including iPads, which supports creativity, composition skills and digital literacy.

In Years 3 and 4, all pupils learn to play a musical instrument, either the violin or the ukulele, through weekly lessons delivered over a 12-week period. These lessons are taught by a specialist instrumental teacher as part of the school's partnership with the local music hub, ensuring pupils benefit from expert tuition and high-quality provision.

Weekly singing assemblies form an integral part of the music curriculum. During these assemblies, pupils learn and practise a wide range of songs, developing vocal technique, musical confidence and enjoyment of singing. Songs learned in singing assemblies are performed not only within assemblies but also at key school events, including Harvest, Easter and Christmas celebrations, as well as class assemblies, area assemblies and whole-school performances. These opportunities enable pupils to perform to different audiences and contribute meaningfully to the wider life of the school.

Music is made accessible to all pupils through careful planning that meets the needs of each cohort. This includes adaptations to timetabling, lesson location, group size and access to appropriate musical equipment. For pupils with additional needs, including sensory sensitivities that may make aspects of music challenging, teachers make reasonable adjustments. These may include modified activities, additional adult support or the use of resources such as ear defenders, ensuring that all pupils are able to participate fully and confidently in music lessons.

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.

Extra-curricular music

All children at Barrs Court Primary School are given the opportunity to access individual or small-group instrumental lessons during the school day, delivered by a specialist music teacher. The instruments currently available for tuition are guitar, keyboard and recorder. These lessons are funded by parents.

Throughout the academic year, specialist instrumental teachers support pupils in preparing for and taking graded music examinations, where appropriate. Pupils are also encouraged to perform regularly, including taking part in end-of-term music ensemble

performances for families and peers. These opportunities help to develop confidence, performance skills and a sense of achievement.

Barrs Court Primary School is extremely proud of its school choir, which meets weekly after school and is offered free of charge. Choir members are given a range of performance opportunities, both within school and in the wider community. These include singing at local events such as performances for residents at a local residential home.

In addition, some choir members take part in larger-scale musical opportunities, including performing as part of The Trust choir at Young Voices in Birmingham. A number of pupils have also had the opportunity to participate in the recording of The Trust song at a professional music studio, providing a memorable and enriching musical experience.

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.

Opportunities for making and learning about music can also be found throughout the wider life of the school. This includes weekly singing assemblies, as well as numerous opportunities for singing within assemblies, festivals, celebrations and performances across the academic year.

All children take part in annual performances at Harvest, Christmas and Easter, with parents and carers invited to attend and celebrate their child's achievements. These performances provide valuable opportunities for pupils to develop confidence, musical skills and a sense of pride in performing to an audience.

In addition, Key Stage 2 pupils take part in an annual end-of-year production, which incorporates acting, singing and dancing, allowing pupils to apply and develop their performance skills in a collaborative and creative context.

Pupils who are learning to play musical instruments are also given regular opportunities to showcase their progress, performing to other pupils and to the wider school community in termly performances. These opportunities help to build confidence, motivation and enjoyment of music.

In the future

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

- Develop stronger links with local secondary schools to support transition and provide pupils with opportunities to experience secondary-level music provision, ensembles and performances.
- Continue to develop a love of singing across the school through high-quality singing assemblies, choir provision and performance opportunities that build confidence and enjoyment.
- Provide further opportunities for pupils to sing within the wider community, including performances at local events and community settings, to enrich pupils' cultural experiences and strengthen community links.
- Ensure the disadvantaged and SEND pupils are being provided with opportunities to learn and participate in music extra-curricular clubs and opportunities.
- To develop Music leaders from Y6 who will promote music at all levels of the school.

Further information (optional)

- The music hub WEMA organise CPD for music leads and are in the process of developing the role of music mentors throughout South Glos.
- WEMA organise Saturday workshops and these opportunities are shared with parents and carers
- WEMA offer all the instrumental teaching opportunities