

Music development plan summary: Wheldrake with Thorganby Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	May 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	May 2027
Name of the school music lead	Sarah Postill
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Emma Miller/Sophie Tams
Name of local music hub	York Music Hub
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.

Class teachers ensure that music teaching is taking place each week and is covering all the key aspects of music. This enables children to develop their understanding of musical concepts, their inter-related dimensions and key vocabulary through fun, practical and engaging music making. Please refer to our Long Term Plan on the website for the music curriculum, which sets out each year groups progression and the units that are learning each term.

All year groups aim for one music lesson of up to an hour each week

Our music curriculum is planned to meet the requirements of the National Curriculum, using lessons from the 'Sparkyard' scheme (Out of the Ark), including class instruments lessons from Reception onwards.

Children with SEND are supported according to their needs in music, which could include adaptations made to resources, instruments or additional support staff in place to enable a child to participate in an independent or group composition.

Opportunities within the 4 key music concepts:

Sing and play skills:

- All children have an opportunity to learn tuned instruments (such as recorder, glockenspiels) and untuned percussion instruments during the curriculum music lessons.
- Children will have the opportunity to develop their singing in class music lessons and worship, which include warm up and games.

Listening skills and genre/history and knowledge:

- During lessons children will have opportunities to listen to and describe music using a range of music vocabulary.
- Describing music can be listed as ideas, feelings, modelling or drawing and progressing throughout each year group.

Compose and improvise skills

- Children will have opportunities to develop their composition skills every term, whilst using the Sparkyard scheme.
- Compositions will either be individual or in groups, using their vocals, body percussion or an instrument learnt.

Notate skills

- Each term, children will have the opportunity to develop their notation skills either during their compositions or following a music piece. In Key Stage 1, children will use their own symbols in graphic notation and will continue to show progression into Key Stage 2 in the use of standard music notation.

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.

We have a number of specialised peripatetic teachers that deliver additional music lessons for individuals or small groups. This includes singing, piano, keyboard, violin, drums and guitar.

The children in Years 5 and 6 have the opportunity to join a band with a specialist band teacher, Bandy. The children then perform to the school and their parents 3 times a year. They also have opportunities to perform out in the community.

Instruments can also be rented from the York Music Hub for curriculum class lessons.

A Year 5/6 band ensemble provides an opportunity for children to develop their skills on a new instrument or vocals and experience performing each term to the school and parents.

A choir is offered to children from Year 2 onwards learning a wide range of popular songs in a variety of genres. The choir also performs each term to the school and parents.

Singing for fun is encouraged in classrooms, whilst incorporating makaton/sign language where appropriate and optional performances to the rest of the school.

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 have a vast musical opportunity at Wheldrake school including:

- Weekly singing worship
- Church services throughout the academic year, where children sing modern and popular congregational hymns as a whole school, along with staff, parents and other members of the community.
- Annual musical performances, which Key Stage 1 and Year 5/6 perform to rest of the school in their dress rehearsals before a final performance:

Autumn term - Key Stage 1 and EYFS

Summer term - Year 6 leavers performance

All children will participate in acting, singing, dancing and instrumental playing.

- Annual singing around the tree at Christmas time
- Young Voices (Key Stage 2) Spring term opportunity to sing with a large group from other local schools, with a live band, dance performers and vocalists.
- Children have the opportunity to perform in their enrichment experiences to parents.
- Annual singing to the residents at Summerset House.
- Children at our school have the opportunity to experience live performances by visiting the pantomime.

In the future

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

We aim to have at least an hour of curriculum music in every year group each week. There are some year groups where this is more challenging due to timetabling, but are working together to ensure that music continues to be taught at a high level.

Providing more opportunities to showcase the pupils that are learning to play an instrument.

Improving the effectiveness and implementation of Spark Yard after reviewing with staff.

Further information (optional)

Look ahead to the next academic year with mixed aged classes and the opportunity to use a specialist teacher for a block of lessons learning an instrument.