

# Music Development Plan Summary: Heddon-on-the-Wall St. Andrew's CE Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	September 2024 - August 2025
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs. E. Henney
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr. A. Wheatley
Name of local music hub	Music Partnership North
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Not Applicable

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.

Music is a unique art form with human interaction at its centre; it brings everyone together, inspires communication when words can fail and wherever in the world you are, it can be understood. Children will be introduced to the delights and disciplines of music from a young age to give them an opportunity for performance and personal expression as well as playing a vital part in their personal, emotional and spiritual development.

The school meets the requirements of the National Curriculum and is informed by the Model Music Curriculum. To do so it follows the Kodaly approach to teaching Music. The central principles of this are:

1. Music should be taught from a young age;
2. Music should be taught in a logical and sequential manner;
3. There should be a pleasure in learning Music;

4. The voice is the most accessible universal instrument;
5. The musical material is taught in the context of the mother-tongue folk song;

The Kodaly approach was created with the development of children in mind.

Children learn and use a moveable 'Solfa' scale which helps them with hearing and singing notes. Each note is assigned a spoken syllable and physical hand gesture. Children learn rhythm as note values are counted out loud with assigned syllables which sound like the rhythms that they spell out. Having these clear ways to understand pitch and rhythm empowers the children to be creative and confident in Music.

The Kodaly approach views Music as a social activity which can move us spiritually as humans and therefore collaboration and performance are a key part of the curriculum. Children are encouraged to perform together, play and sing duets, rounds and other musical forms or games.

In Music lesson the children's work encompasses the following areas: listening and appreciating, composing and performing with both voices and instruments with musicianship embedded throughout. Technology is used to support the children's development and understanding of composing music. Units of work are clearly planned to enable children to know more and remember more with prior learning and skills being built upon in a progressive manner. Musical appreciation covers music from a wide range of genres, times and places. Music from each continent is covered. This includes both traditional music and modern music from each place.

Each week the children receive a Music lesson of 40 minutes with Mrs. Milner, our specialist Music teacher. Children in Nursery receive a session of 30 minutes.

There are also three hymn practice sessions of 30 minutes. One for Early Years and Key Stage 1, one for Lower Key Stage 2 and one for Upper Key Stage 2. These sessions are also led by Mrs. Milner and build upon the work done in class Music lessons particularly pitch patterning and rhythm. Splitting according to age group enables the teaching of age appropriate songs and techniques which are appropriately challenging.

In Year 3 children receive an hour of whole class instrument tuition per week. The instrument chosen by the school is the ukulele as this is cheap to purchase, should parents wish to do so, is an instrument that children can quickly learn basic skills on and experience success and is a gateway instrument into other instruments such as guitars and bass guitars.

For further information about the school curriculum for Music for each year group please see the Music section on the school website or by [clicking here](#).

For information about how the school supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities in Music please see the Music section on the school website or by [clicking here](#).

## Part B: Extra-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.

### **School Choir**

Children from Year 1 to Year 6 are invited to join the school choir. This is led by Mrs. Milner, specialist Music Teacher, Mr. Dancer and Mrs. Graham (who are volunteers). Mrs. Graham conducts the choir while Mr. Dancer provides accompaniment on guitar and Mrs. Milner leads and provides accompaniment on the keyboard / piano.

The choir meet twice a week before school. They learn a wide range of songs for performances both at school arranged events and out of school events and competitions. There are many opportunities for children to sing in small groups or solo if they wish to do so and additional support and teaching to do so is provided.

The choir is very popular and currently has 36 members. There is a nominal cost of 50p per week for choir and this funding is used to pay for transport to events and for additional equipment such as instruments, microphones and speakers.

### **Peripatetic Music - Keyboards / Guitars (Northumberland Music)**

Through links with Music Partnership North children have the opportunity to participate in additional lessons for either keyboard, guitar or both. These are delivered by our peripatetic Music teacher, Mr. Reay. Children get a 20 minute lesson per week. As this is a service provided through the Northumberland Music it is chargeable. Costs are available through Northumberland Music. This can be subsidised for children in receipt of Pupil Premium or Armed Forces (Services) funding.

### **Rocksteady Band**

Rocksteady Band is an external provider. Children are able to work together in a group as a band with them learning how to play different instruments and with some vocal coaching for one 30 minute lesson per week. They practise modern pop songs and they then perform to their parents and their peers once per term.

As this is an external provider there is an associated cost of £42.79 per month. This can be subsidised for children in receipt of Pupil Premium or Armed Forces (Services) funding. Rocksteady provide a bursary to cover the costs for one child per year. This is aimed at children who are in receipt of Pupil Premium.

## **Signposting**

The school regularly signposts parents to external music groups through the website and Friday Flyer. These include instrument and vocal tuition and local ensemble groups through Northumberland Music. Northumberland Music have a free instrument loan service which children can access. Parents can register for these lessons and groups via the Music Partnership North section of the Northumberland County Council website or by [clicking here](#).

Costs for instrumental / vocal lessons are:

- £19.95 per week for an individual 30 minute lesson;
- £13.86 per week for an individual 20 minute lesson;
- £10.37 per week for a lesson in a group of 2;
- £7.13 per week for a lesson in a group of 3 or more.

The school also signposts the Newcastle Children's Choir and Newcastle Youth Choir which are run by Newcastle Music Service as a number of children who attend the school live in Newcastle.

## **Part C: Musical Events**

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 the opportunity to perform at the following events:

### **School organised:**

- Welcome Service at St. Andrew's Church (Early Years and Key Stage 1 - 108 children);
- Harvest Festival at St. Andrew's Church (Early Years and Key Stage 1 - 108 children);
- Harvest Festival at St. Andrew's Church (Key Stage 2 - 111 children);
- Nativity in school (Early Years - 52 children);
- Christmas Performance at St. Andrew's Church (Key Stage 1 - 56 children);
- Carol Service at St. Andrew's Church (Key Stage 2 - 111 children);
- Mothers Day Service at St. Andrew's Church (Early Years and Key Stage 1 - 112 children);
- Mothers Day Service at St. Andrew's Church (Key Stage 2 - 111 children);
- Easter Service at St. Andrew's Church (Key Stage 2 – 111 children);
- Leavers Assembly in school (Year 6 - 29 children);

For all school organised events children have the opportunity to watch and listen to each other perform as part of dress rehearsals.

All of these events are free for parents and children to attend.

**Trust organised:**

- Singing songs of remembrance at the memorials at Vimy Ridge and Thiepval in the Somme (Year 6 (along with Year children from other Pele Trust schools - up to 29 children from this school with approx 60 children participating overall)).

Attendance on the residential to France is optional. Subsidies have been provided this year through the Turing Fund for those children identified as being in receipt of Pupil Premium.

**Diocesan organised:**

- Leavers Service at St. Nicholas' Cathedral (Year 6 - 29 children).

All of these events are free for children to attend. Due to capacity limitations in the Cathedral parents and families are unable to attend these events.

**Instrument performances organised by school as part of curriculum delivery:**

- Termly Ukulele Concert in school (Year 3 - 25 children).

Ukulele tuition for Year 3 is free and attendance at the concerts are free for both parents and children.

**Instrument performances organised by external providers:**

- Termly Rocksteady Band Concerts (for those children who attend (Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2)

Attendance at Rocksteady Band Practice is chargeable as this is through an external provider. Subsidies can be provided for children for those who are eligible for Pupil Premium or Armed Forces (Services) funding.

**Performances by Clubs**

- Music & Drama showcase performance of The Tempest (performed by Choir (open to Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children) and Drama Club (open to Year 5 and Year 6 children)) (Total of 53 children involved)

This event is chargeable as parents and visitors not only get to watch the performance but are provided with a three course meal, drinks and snacks.

- Ryton and District Music Festival. The Choir compete against other choirs in a range of categories at this local Music Festival. Not only do the children perform but they also get to hear other choirs perform.

This event is free for children participating. There is limited space for parents to attend.

- Christmas Carols at the Swan Christmas Fair (performed by Choir (open to Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children). The choir sing a medley of songs to open the Christmas Fair at the local pub.

This event is free for children participating, however, there is a small admission fee for parents / families wishing to attend the fair.

- Christmas Carols at the Knott Hall Christmas Fair (performed by Choir (open to Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children). The choir sing a medley of songs to open the village Christmas Fair at the Knott Hall.

This event is free for children participating, however, there is a small admission fee for parents / families wishing to attend the fair.

#### **Attendance at external performances:**

- Ponteland High School performance of We will Rock You (29 Year 6 children attended)

This event was free for children attending to watch and the costs of transport were met by the school.

## **In the future**

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

In the coming years the school plans to:

- Embed and monitor the listening curriculum; to introduce a 'song of the week'; children to listen to and discuss a different song. Careful song selection linked to the listening curriculum to expose children to a range of musical genres, time periods and composers. Songs to include a live performance video format - so children can discuss performance and pick up performance tips and become well rounded musicians. Each Friday, to ask a different Year group each week to play their song/music on entry to Celebration Assembly and children to give a brief summary of the genre, time period, composer;
- Make greater use of instruments to further develop the musicianship and composition skills the children have;
- Embed the use of technology to create and share music. This will build from simply using technology to create simple sounds to creating multi-track compositions;
- Develop the peripatetic offer by offering brass instrument tuition alongside keyboards and guitars with a view to children continuing at the High School and becoming part of their brass band.

Use this space to include any information on any improvements you plan to make for subsequent years in curriculum music, co-curricular music or musical experiences, including when you plan to introduce changes.

Also consider including:

- any information that relates to the 7 features of high-quality music provision (see the text box at the beginning of the template), such as increasing lesson time to

one hour a week each term, introducing the teaching of new instruments or having a termly school performance.

## Further information (optional)

Use this space to provide any further information about your school's music development plan, including links to your local music hub partners, other local music education organisations and contacts.

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.

Your local [music hub](#) should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.

If your school is part of a multi-academy trust with a trust-wide music development plan, you may also want to include a link to any published information on this plan.