Music development plan summary: Beechcroft Infants School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026/27
Date this summary was published	25/10/26
Date this summary will be reviewed	22/07/27
Name of the school music lead	Davinia Rogers
Name of local music hub	Swindon Music Service

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-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

Music Vision Statement

Music is an essential part of life; integral in the development of the whole person.

We believe that at Beechcroft School the opportunity to engage in musical experiences is crucial for this development of the whole child.

We want children to:

- Have their musical strengths recognised
- Have their musical abilities encouraged
- Reach their musical potential
- Develop a life-long love of music

Aims of the Music Curriculum:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of different periods genres, styles and traditions, including the work of the great composers and musicians.

- Learn to sing and use the voice, to create and compose music on their own and collaboratively, to learn to play an instrument from notation, use technology appropriately and to have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and musical notations.

Inclusion and SEND:

Music is unique in the way it brings people together: our curriculum ensures that every pupil is given the opportunity to take part and to experience music. We will take part in opportunities that enrich, compliment and extend our teaching and we will commit to training staff to be aware of and sensitive to the issues that can prevent participation and overcome barriers to musical inclusion. A high-quality music education is a right for all children and we consider every child's individual needs without compromising on quality provision. Through the use of the Charanga digital platform, music lessons are inclusive, accessible and enjoyable for all. This platform also offers a SEND section that provides extra support through the Anyone Can Play scheme for children with special educational needs and disabilities. Teachers can access these resources alongside their curriculum planning to find appropriate resources and activities to suit all specific needs.

Teaching and learning:

We aim to make music an enjoyable learning experience. Singing lies at the heart of music teaching and coming together during assemblies is an important part of school life. Our curriculum gives focus to developing students' ability to sing in tune and within groups, as well as learning about the structure and organisation of songs. We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music.

Students develop descriptive and analytical skills in music when learning how music can represent feelings and emotions. We also teach students how to compose music and how to make music together. We do this by setting tasks which are open-ended and can have a variety of inclusive responses and success measures.

Planning:

We plan our music, referencing the Model Music Curriculum, the school's values and approach to learning and incorporate accessible schemes of learning via Charanga, ensuring where possible, that topics link and extend students prior learning. While there are opportunities for students of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge, the progression planned means that students are increasingly challenged as they move through the school.

The Foundation Stage:

We teach music in the foundation stage as an integral part of topic work covered during the year. We relate the musical aspects of the students' work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals which underpin the curriculum planning for students aged three to five. Music contributes to students' personal and social development e.g counting songs foster a child's mathematical abilities and songs about different cultures increase a child's knowledge and fosters a wider appreciation of diversity.

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development:

Creating, performing and listening to music can be a moving or even spiritual experience for many. We encourage students to reflect on the important effect that music can have on their mood and senses. Students are given the opportunity to experience music from different cultures during, lessons and assemblies, which encourages positive attitudes towards other beliefs and societies.

Resources:

There are adequate music resources for use across the school. There are three large boxes of mixed percussion instruments for whole class use, a wide selection of djembe drums, a class set of chime bars, a class set of glockenspiels, class sets of recorders and ocarinas Key Stage 1 and a wide variety of other mixed percussion instruments. These are stored in a central area in the music room. There is also 1 electrical piano available.

Assessment and monitoring:

Students demonstrate their ability in music in a variety of different ways.

Teacher's will assess students' work in music by undertaking both formative and summative assessments during lessons to inform future progress.

Formative assessment checks the curriculum is being learnt, checks their knowledge and understanding. It takes the form of supportive and encouraging 'in the moment' feedback e.g 'you need to hold the beater like this'. It is not written down or recorded. The teacher might model and demonstrate how to do something. It will be evident in lesson visits or observations.

Summative assessment judges whether the curriculum is working and will inform the teacher if any new developments or changes need to be made to the curriculum for it to work.

This will take the form of the end of term assessment lesson and will help inform judgements made on SIMS by the end of the school year. The assessment sheet will need to be completed after each terms assessment lesson.

At Beechcroft, our school music curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum. The subject leader plans each terms music throughout the year. We use a mixture of the scheme, Charanga and other music tuition videos. We also use expert knowledge from our music specialist staff to plan comprehensive lessons that show a unique progression across our school. The planning and the charanga scheme allows all teachers to teach comprehensive and carefully sequenced music lessons, ensuring that all children progress and build upon their music skills throughout each year group. Music lessons are taught once a week for at least one hour and are planned and taught as carefully and robustly as any other foundation subject. Our Music Progression Skills Map details our student's progression of musical knowledge and skills from FS – Year 2.

Each music lesson offers a range of activities and musical experiences that start with interactive games, singing and vocal warm-ups, listening and appraising different genres and styles of music, playing instrumental parts in a song, introducing and learning notation, improvisation and composing activities and an opportunity to perform and share. Teachers assess children's progress through a unit of work to track if children are working at the at the Expected Standard, Greater Depth or if they require extra support with their music education.

Specific vocabulary is displayed to support learning of musical knowledge and skills throughout each lesson.

Classes are mixed Year 1 and 2 pupils. In the first year of our 2-year rolling programme, pupils have the opportunity to learn to play the recorder through whole-class ensemble teaching. This progresses further in the second year as they learn to play the ocarina, also through whole-class ensemble teaching.

The school has the support of the local music hub, Swindon Music Service. This supports with curriculum, CPD and wider opportunities.

Part B: Extra-curricular music

Music should be embedded in every school, and as such, it is crucial that we provide extra opportunities outside of lesson time for children to be curious about music and make progress beyond the core curriculum.

Instrumental tuition:

At our school, children are offered large group tuition of recorders and ocarinas.

These are taught outside of specific allocated lesson time and take place within the classroom.

Choir:

We also offer small-group choir practise for all year groups run by our Music subject leader Mrs Rogers and the deputy head teacher Mrs Hancock. Both are musically trained and sing themselves in a local choir. Children are given the opportunity to practise in this small group ensemble once a week, performing their songs at the end of the Summer term at the Swindon Infant Music Festival held at the local theatre.

Instrumental ensembles:

We also have opportunities for instrumental ensembles throughout the Summer term. All children are given the opportunity to take part in a drumming or percussion workshop led by the Music subject leader Mrs Rogers. Through this programme, children experience playing a range of drums, from chair drumming to Djembe drums and also a wide variety of other percussion instruments. They will experience different music genres and can pick contemporary songs to learn, practise and perform. The aim of this workshop is to play just for fun and perform together in small group performances. This workshop is free for all children in the school.

The choir club has a small weekly charge which goes towards the school's admin and running costs for the club. Pupil premium children are offered this clubs for free and are given priority places.

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. In order to exceed the National Curriculum for Music, we aim high with extra opportunities for musical performances and support children realise their musical potential.

The whole school takes part in a singing assembly every week. We learn a variety of songs throughout the year. Some are seasonal and some support or school values.

We have a variety of musical enrichment opportunities that take place throughout the year:

Enrichment Opportunities

Weekly/Daily opportunities

Go Noodle

Dough Disco

Nursery Rhyme time

Squiggle whilst you Wiggle

Collective worship singing

Class anthems

Yoga/mindfulness

Singing assemblies

Autumn Term:

KS 1 Harvest Festival at the Church – Years 1 and 2 perform a harvest concert at the local church.

Each class will perform a song and there will also be some songs performed as a whole Key stage.

EYFS Autumn Celebration Assembly - this is performed within classes.

Christmas Performance – The whole school perform a Christmas show. Each class will learn a song and the Year 2 children will act and narrate the Christmas story as well.

Christmas Assembly - whole school singing together and performing songs learnt in singing assemblies.

Pantomime - a theatre group will perform a pantomime to the whole school.

Spring Term:

EYFS Make a Noise – EYFS perform at the local Music Hub's performance venue in front of parents and other schools.

Easter Assembly - whole school singing together and performing songs learnt in singing assemblies.

Summer Term:

Music roadshows - the local music hub arranges a variety of instrument roadshows that perform in school every year. These range from percussion to rock and pop and woodwind or strings.

Music Week (visiting musicians) – We invite the local Junior school to perform with our children. This also gives some of the Year 2 pupils some inspiration for their future performances in their new school.

Year 2 Talent Show – The year 2 children showcase their talents and perform in front of the rest of the school.

Summer Concert – The whole school takes part in a large Summer concert on the school field. Each class will perform their own song and the whole school will also sing songs together. Each year we have a different theme. Parents are invited to watch. This is a free concert and open to all parents and families.

Infant Music Festival – The local music service organise a festival at the local theatre and invite choirs from all the schools around Swindon to take part. This is a performance that takes place in the theatre and parents are invited to watch.

In the future

We aim to create a strong musical culture at Beechcroft and continue to provide high-quality music provision for all children. We will continue to build upon our teaching of the music curriculum to ensure all children leave our school as confident and joyful musicians, with a unique love of music.

Aims	How we will achieve this	Impact
1. To include small ensemble playing and performing within the music planning.	Performances/assemblies for year groups to share instrument learning journeys and ensemble performances– recorder, ocarinas, drums etc. Small ensembles will be included these within the Autumn, Christmas and Summer performances	• Small ensembles will perform regularly and performance and listening skills will improve.
2. To establish and create a partnership with cultural organisations outside the school and apply for a music mark award	To invite the local junior school to share performances with our school. Take part in shared performances with other schools within the Blue Kite Academy	• Children will have more confidence when performing with others
3. To create outside music areas for all classes around the school.	To use recycled materials, pots, pans, pipes, tubes etc to create an outside music area for all classes to use to enhance their musical learning and creativity.	• Children will be more confident with musical instrument exploration and they will have somewhere to independently practice the musical skills learnt in their lessons.

Further information (optional)

Local Music Hub link: https://makemusicswindon.org/schools/