

Music development plan summary: Church Hill C of E Junior School

2025 - 2026

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	Autumn 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	Autumn 2026
Name of the school music lead	Diane Brown
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	As above
Name of local music hub	Leicestershire Primary Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rock Steady

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.

Curriculum: At Church Hill C of E Junior School, we use the Leicestershire Music Primary Scheme of work for 1 hour per week.

Our curriculum ensures we follow the National Curriculum for Music (2014) for Key Stage 2 and also the Model Music Curriculum (2021)

Pupils should be taught to sing and play musically with increasing confidence and control. They should develop an understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structures and reproducing sounds from aural memory.

Pupils should be taught to:

- play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression
- improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the interrelated dimensions of music
- listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory
- use and understand staff and other musical notations
- appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians
- develop an understanding of the history of music

In music, children are encouraged to “let their light shine” (Matthew 5:16) by discovering and celebrating the beauty of sound in God’s wonderful world. They develop their voices and perform on a wide range of instruments, exploring music as both personal expression and shared experience. Through listening to and appreciating diverse genres, children encounter composers from different historical periods and cultures across the globe. They learn how music has been used to inspire, to bring people together, and to shape positive change in communities near and far. Every child arrives at Church Hill with unique musical gifts, and the curriculum provides rich opportunities for them to share their knowledge and skills, while also supporting and encouraging others. In this way, music becomes a means not only of developing creativity and confidence, but also of building community and contributing to the flourishing of all.

The Leicestershire Music Primary Scheme is a whole school music scheme that can be used by non-specialist primary teachers to teach the subject content of the National Curriculum and the expectations of the Model Music Curriculum (MMC). This is achieved through a progressive approach that builds on substantive and disciplinary knowledge being taught through the 6 units of work.

Substantive Knowledge

Children will develop and secure the substantive knowledge of the interrelated dimensions of music.

Interrelated Dimensions of Music

- Rhythm (referred to as ‘Duration’ on NC)
- Pitch
- Texture
- Tempo
- Dynamics
- Timbre
- Structure
- (Notation / Pulse sometimes also referred to as inter-related dimensions but not specified on the NC)

While each Unit has a key focus, each one is built around all of the inter-related dimensions of music, taking a holistic approach to the development of musicianship. Substantive knowledge in the scheme also involves learning about music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions.

Disciplinary Knowledge

Disciplinary knowledge requires knowing how to interpret and apply this knowledge in practice to control sounds and create music, whether singing, playing instruments, improvising, composing and performing. The Leicestershire Music Primary Scheme focuses on the practical application and interpretation of substantive knowledge through disciplinary knowledge to develop creative, original musical work.

Children work independently and collaboratively on deepening their understanding of technical knowledge to accurately produce sounds and communicate their music to others. They learn to construct and deconstruct music to further their own ability to compose and they learn to gain an understanding of expression and what expressive knowledge means musically when performing and evaluating their work. By bringing this all together through regular music making, each year group can build on the previous one, enabling children to be ready for the next stage in their musical education.

In Years $\frac{3}{4}$ cycle A all children have an opportunity to learn the ukuleles and in Year $\frac{3}{4}$ cycle B the chance to learn the clarinet. Year 5 children learn the djembe and Year 6 children explore voice.

The school works closely with Leicestershire Music Hub as a partnership. Leicestershire Music Hub provides the school with the clarinet lessons and support via the scheme.

Assessment

Music is assessed by using Alex Bedford's pupil book studies. Staff also assess using a variety of formative and summative assessments throughout the year from the Leicestershire Music Primary Scheme which are then compared against an assessment portfolio. Assessment information is held on our Foundation Stage Teacher Assessment Grid.

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.

Music Tuition During the School Day:

Once the Year $\frac{3}{4}$ children have had a term's clarinet teaching, there is an opportunity for children to continue to learn the clarinet through small group tuition. There is a

charge for this and there is a reduced charge for pupil premium children. This includes the hire of the instrument. There are termly performances for these children.

Rock Steady provide instrument teaching for small groups, providing lessons for keyboard, guitar, drums and vocals. The pupil premium funding is used to support some children's access to this and again, there are termly performances.

Extra-Curricular Music

The school has a very active and well attended school choir which meets after school on Wednesdays. The choir regularly perform both at school and within the local community. There is no charge for this.

The school offers a variety of extra-curricular musical clubs throughout the school year: Guitar Club Radio Club and Military Drumming Club. There are charges for these and a reduced rate for pupil premium. Military drumming includes learning to read music and learning drumming patterns using electric drum pads. Radio club involves manipulating sound using electronics and creating short radio programmes for broadcasting. Guitar clubs involves learning chords and strumming sequences and playing together as a group.

During the school year, the school offers extra-curricular clubs for steel pans, ukuleles and djembes.

Musical Performances

Musical events and performances are held throughout the year to give groups the chance to shine and demonstrate their learning. The choir regularly sings at Thurmaston Lights Up, a community event to celebrate advent, as well as singing for the Thrummy Drummer Dementia Group Christmas Party. The choir has sung at the Demontfort Hall Festival of Remembrance and the British Legion's 90th Birthday event. The choir, military drumming group, and other musical groups perform at an end of year show. The radio club have their programmes broadcast on 103 The Eye.

There are termly performances for clarinets and Rock Steady to share their music with Parents/Carers and their peers.

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.

Musical experiences:

The children enjoy weekly singing Get Togethers when they learn both tradition and modern songs for worship as well as songs from different musical traditions, cultures and languages, including British Sign Language. The Head Teacher plays the guitar and piano in the Get Togethers.

The music is carefully chosen for entrance to our Get Togethers and is selected from the BBC 10 pieces collection. This allows opportunities for children to hear classical and orchestral music as well as learning the background to the composers.

Every Christmas, the Year 3 children perform a nativity to parents which includes a variety of songs, some of which are in two-part harmony. The Year 5 children also lead a school carol service.

At the end of the academic year, Year 6 perform a show for parents/carers, again involving music, dance and drama.

The rest of the school enjoy watching the dress rehearsals for the Y3 and Y6 performances. Parents/Carers, families and the local community enjoy watching the performances.

During the spring term, the school hosts Church Hill's Got Talent, which allows all performers a chance to showcase their musical abilities from either home or school. Trophies and medals can be won. This is performed to both the school as well as parents/carers.

During the spring term 2025, the school choir was involved in the Melton Prom and learnt a variety of classical music to be sung with a live orchestra. This is through our close work with other local schools in the Melton Vale Collaboration. It is hoped that a similar event will be run in 2026.

In the future

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

- This academic year, the school is consolidating the use of knowledge organisers for music to help children better understand the vocabulary and key learning for the units of work.

- Music during Get Togethers will be more strategically planned in chronological order to help appreciate the history of music. The summer term will consolidate work completed last year on music from other cultures and world music.
- Staff training regarding composition will continue so staff have more confidence developing compositional ideas.
- Music technology will be further developed to ensure consistency in teaching

Further information (optional)

As well as receiving support from Leicestershire Music Hub, the school attends network meetings with LearnAt Multi-Academy Trust to develop the subject further.