

Music development plan summary: Hetton Lyons Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	August 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs C Ashman
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Music Connects Sunderland
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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.

At Hetton Lyons Primary School, we believe that every child should have the opportunity to experience a broad, engaging and high-quality music education. Music plays an important role within our curriculum, enabling pupils to develop creativity, confidence, self-expression and an appreciation of a wide range of musical styles and cultures.

Music is taught throughout the school from EYFS to Year 6. In Key Stages 1 and 2, pupils receive a minimum of one hour of curriculum music each week through a combination of a 45-minute weekly music lesson and a weekly singing assembly. In the Early Years Foundation Stage, music is delivered through planned adult-led teaching and continuous provision in line with the EYFS Framework.

Our curriculum has been carefully designed by school staff to meet the needs of our pupils and is enhanced through the use of high-quality resources, including Sing Up. It is informed by the National Curriculum for Music and the Model Music Curriculum

(2021), ensuring clear progression in musical knowledge, skills and vocabulary across all year groups.

Throughout their time at school, pupils develop their understanding of pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, structure and notation. They learn to sing with increasing confidence, compose and perform their own music, listen critically to a wide range of musical genres and traditions, and evaluate performances using appropriate musical vocabulary.

Pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 experience whole-class instrumental learning as part of the curriculum, delivered through a combination of class teachers and specialist tuition.

Our curriculum is fully inclusive and adapted to meet the needs of all learners, including pupils with SEND. Appropriate support, resources and adaptations ensure that every child can participate successfully and make progress in music.

Pupils' musical knowledge and skills are assessed throughout lessons, enabling teachers to monitor progress and inform future learning.

Further information about our Music Curriculum and SEND provision can be found on the school's curriculum pages.

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.

Pupils have a wide range of opportunities to develop their musical interests beyond the classroom.

Specialist peripatetic teachers provide small-group instrumental tuition for pupils in Key Stage 2. Tuition is available in brass, woodwind, percussion, guitar and string instruments. Lessons are chargeable, and families requiring financial support are encouraged to contact the school to discuss available assistance.

Pupils learning brass instruments are encouraged to join the school band, which rehearses weekly and performs at school and community events throughout the year.

Children in Years 2 to 6 are invited to join the school choir, which rehearses weekly after school. Choir members regularly perform within school and at community events, helping pupils develop vocal technique, confidence and performance skills.

Some pupils also progress beyond school by participating in local musical opportunities, including Sunderland Youth Choir and Houghton Area Youth Band. Information about these opportunities is shared regularly with families.

Pupils receiving instrumental tuition are also supported to work towards nationally recognised practical music examinations where appropriate.

Lessons are chargeable. No pupil is prevented from participating because of financial circumstances, and families requiring financial support are encouraged to contact the school to discuss the support available.

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.

Music is an important part of school life at Hetton Lyons Primary School, with pupils enjoying a wide range of opportunities to perform, listen to and celebrate music throughout the year.

All pupils participate in weekly singing assemblies, developing vocal skills, musical confidence and enjoyment of singing together.

Throughout the year, pupils perform in a variety of school events including:

- Christmas Coffee Morning performances and Nativity productions
- Easter Coffee Morning performances
- Summer Performing Arts productions
- End-of-year instrumental celebration concerts

Our choir regularly performs within the local community, giving pupils opportunities to share their talents with wider audiences and strengthen links with local organisations.

Pupils also participate in external musical events organised through Music Connects Sunderland, including Sunderland Sings at the Sunderland Empire Theatre (Year 4 pupils), Infantasias (Year 2 pupils) and Vocal Showcase (choir members).

Children learning instruments have regular opportunities to perform to parents, carers and peers, celebrating their achievements and developing confidence as musicians.

These experiences enable pupils to perform both individually and as members of ensembles, experience live music and develop a lifelong appreciation of music.

In the future

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

Over the coming years we will continue to strengthen and develop music provision across the school by:

- continuing to provide high-quality professional development for staff to enhance the teaching of music;
- strengthening partnerships with musicians, performers and external organisations to broaden pupils' musical experiences;
- increasing opportunities for pupils to experience live performances representing a diverse range of musical traditions and cultures;
- developing stronger transition links with feeder schools to support progression in musical knowledge and skills;
- continuing to review and refine our curriculum to ensure it remains ambitious, inclusive and responsive to the needs of all learners;
- expanding opportunities for pupils to perform both within school and across the local community.

Our aim is to ensure that every pupil leaves Hetton Lyons Primary School with the confidence, knowledge and enthusiasm to continue enjoying and participating in music throughout their lives.

Further information

Hetton Lyons Primary School works closely with Music Connects Sunderland to support high-quality music education and provide opportunities for pupils to participate in local and city-wide musical events.

Parents and carers wishing to find out more about instrumental tuition, choir, the school band or wider musical opportunities are encouraged to contact the school office.

Further information about our Music Curriculum, including progression and SEND provision, is available on the school's curriculum pages.