

Music development plan summary: Owston Park Primary Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	31 st July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs J Spiby-Wilson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Doncaster
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	darts Opera North Rainbow Choir Rocksteady

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.

Rationale

Our music curriculum aims to enrich the lives of our pupils by giving them the opportunity to perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions. Children are given the opportunity to create and compose music using their voices, instruments and technology to express their ideas and feelings. They also explore how music is created, produced and composed, showing an understanding of musical vocabulary and noticing how music links to other curriculum subjects. We use music to help children to develop their understanding of mindfulness, keeping their mind and bodies healthy and thus contributing to an overall happier self. We sing a range of songs in assemblies and also share children's musical

achievement, celebrating a culturally diverse society and promoting tolerance and human dignity within creative expression.

“Where words fail, music speaks.” - Hans Christian Anderson

At Owston park we offer a knowledge-rich curriculum with the purpose of increasing the quantity and quality of what our children know, enabling them to develop a wealth of knowledge and cultural capital to draw upon and build upon throughout their lives. We do this through:

- Singing
- Listening
- Composing
- Performing/Instrumental Performance

All our children will learn to play at least two musical instruments with progression pathways in place through the year groups. This will be through following the Charanga programme in line with the [Model Music Curriculum](#).

Music plays a vital role in our curriculum, offering children the opportunity to become reflective, expressive, and well-rounded musicians. Through our comprehensive program, we aim to cultivate a deep appreciation for music by providing rich learning experiences. Our focus is on developing essential musical skills, including:

- Aural skills: Sharpening the ability to listen attentively and critically.
- Improvisation: Encouraging creativity and spontaneity in music-making.
- Memorisation: Strengthening memory through musical pieces and exercises.
- Composition: Nurturing original music creation.
- Staff notation: Ensuring a solid understanding of musical notation and theory.

By embedding these elements into the curriculum, we aim to help each child develop a personal connection to music, fostering both technical proficiency and artistic expression

Our school music curriculum is informed by the model music curriculum (March 2021) non-statutory guidance for teaching from Key stages 1 to 3. Key components of this include:

- Music curriculum based on the MMC from KS1 – KS2 inclusive of SEND
- Classroom instrumental teaching (Glockenspiels KS1 and Y3, Ukuleles Y2 and Y4 and Recorders Y5 and 6) with progression year on year
- Visiting music teachers (Rocksteady, Rainbow Choir, Doncaster Music Service)
- Links with external music organisations (Doncaster Music Hub, darts, Opera North, Hill House, Rainbow Choir, Rocksteady)

- KS2 Choir (Boys, Girls and Mixed)
- Trust choir
- Trust Ensemble
- Whole school singing assemblies
- Wider singing opportunities such as Sing Out, Young Voices, Christmas performance within and outside of school
- Regular performance opportunities (assemblies, school fayres, Christmas and end of year productions, talent shows etc.)

We work alongside Doncaster Music Hub (DMH) to ensure all children have the opportunity to learn at least two musical instruments within their primary school tenure. We also offer lessons from Rocksteady for instrumental instruction across a wider range of instruments

Musical instruments that are taught as part of classroom teaching in KS1 and KS2 are:

- KS1 – [Charanga](#) model music curriculum (Glockenspiels Y1)
- KS2 – Charanga model music curriculum (Glockenspiels Y3, Recorders Y5 & 6)
- Ukuleles will be taught to Y2 and Y4 through First Access programme offered by Doncaster Music Hub (Instruments provided by the local music service as part of the First Access programme).
- Drums, Keyboard, Guitar, Electric Guitar and vocals are available for children through Rocksteady (Instruments provided by Rocksteady for their sessions)

Classroom Instrumental Teaching

As part of the Charanga curriculum the children will learn how to play the glockenspiel and the recorder by following the programs through each unit embedding their understanding of each instrument and the skills required for both.

Doncaster Music Hub will provide a teacher for one year's whole class instrumental teaching in Year 2 and Year 4 for Ukulele.

Progression Pathways

Pupils who are identified as particularly skilled and adept in a musical instrument are signposted to local music hub and ensembles to progress further. They are also offered opportunities to join our Trust Ensemble and Choir as well as annual offers to join the school choir with specialist instruction.

SEND

Music is used throughout the school as a tool for learning in a number of subjects as well as enjoyment. It is a part of our everyday life at Owston Park School. We believe

that all children have the right to learn and should have opportunities available to them, to learn to sing and play a musical instrument as well as to appreciate all music genres. Our whole class tuition offers equality of opportunity. All children are able to see how what they are learning is connected to a body of greater knowledge and that knowledge across those bodies is interchangeable. Our children are supported to navigate their way through a meaningful, inter-related curriculum. Music is available to every child. All of our children take part in musical activities both within and out of the classroom, making a positive contribution to our school community. All musical activities are planned to encourage full and active participation from all children in line with their own knowledge and understanding. Children have equal opportunities to develop their own understanding and enjoyment of music regardless of race, gender and ability.

Our specialist bubble, which supports pupils who are unable to access whole-class teaching, follows a bespoke music curriculum that is carefully designed to meet their individual learning needs. Music is used as a powerful bridge to learning, enhancing engagement with termly texts through repetition, familiar melodies and meaningful musical experiences that reinforce key vocabulary and concepts. Carefully structured routines within music sessions provide consistency and predictability, helping pupils to develop confidence, emotional security and readiness to learn. Music also plays a vital role in developing communication and social interaction skills, creating opportunities for shared attention, turn-taking, joint participation and positive relationships with peers and adults. Through the use of percussion instruments and interactive musical activities, all pupils, including those who are non-verbal, are able to participate, express themselves and experience success. By removing communication barriers and providing accessible, multisensory learning experiences, music enables every pupil to engage, achieve and develop essential skills that support learning across the wider curriculum.

Links with external music organisations

We work closely with a number of external music organisations:

- [Doncaster Music Hub](#)
- [darts](#)
- [Opera North](#)
- [Rocksteady](#)
- [Rainbow Choir](#)

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.

Progression Pathways

Children who are identified as particularly enjoying and skilled in an instrument are sign posted to local music hubs and ensembles where their skills can be honed. Links to these associations is also provided on our school [website](#).

Children are encouraged to play in talent shows and performances held in school each year. During whole class tuition we endeavour to provide time for children to showcase solo pieces of work which allows us to more closely identify children who could benefit from further pathway opportunities.

Choir

We have KS2 choirs that is open to all children in the key phase who wish to participate. Performance opportunities are regular including at school fayres, Christmas performances both outside and inside of school. We also offer key events focused on signing such as Young Voices and Sing Out.

Doncaster Music Hub Ensemble

Children are encouraged to join a variety of vocal and instrumental ensembles run by our [local music hub](#).

Whole School Singing assemblies

Our children look forward to weekly singing assemblies which include:

- Videos of performances – some of which are live which exposes children to a range of musical instruments
- Vocal warm up exercises
- Listening to songs – a variety of styles and genres
- Learning songs
- Discussion of songs history and/or the feeling behind the lyrics
- Musical elements within the songs
- Lyrics shown
- Performance techniques discussed and addressed
- Reviewing different Composers

Music Room

At Owston Park we offer a music room which can be used for music lessons, as a rehearsal space or for additional lessons. The room houses the musical instruments that the school has providing an immersive environment for music to grow.

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.

An integral part of our music curriculum is children being able to see, hear and participate in live performances. Due to this we plan regular events to support this such as:

- Teachers live performances
- Visiting the pantomime to see performances live
- Children participating in performances with orchestra bands
- Professional Musicians coming into school to teach
- Children performing in assemblies half termly

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Whole school singing assemblies

We hold weekly singing assemblies that will continue throughout the year. These are between 15-20minutes long. They consist of:

- Videos of performances – some of which are live which exposes children to a range of musical instruments
- Vocal warm up exercises
- Listening to songs – a variety of styles and genres
- Learning songs
- Discussion of songs history and/or the feeling behind the lyrics
- Musical elements within the songs
- Lyrics shown
- Performance techniques discussed and addressed
- Reviewing different Composers

Musical Performances

- There will be more performance opportunities for our school choir next year. We hope to offer performances for our Christmas fayre and in the local community as well as incorporating a choir performance for assemblies.
- All children will have the opportunity to be part of Young Voices, Sing Out and any Opera North activities that we may be invited to this academic year.
- Each class will have the opportunity to perform to parents once a year showcasing their newly learned skills on the class instrument for that academic year.
- We hold a creative assembly at the end of each year (Owstons Got Talent) where all children have the opportunity to perform as soloists, duets or as part of an ensemble to showcase their own talents and skills.
- Y1, Y3, Y5 and Y6 will perform to the school once a year showcasing their termly progress in the instrument they are learning.
- At the end of each year children who have been learning the Ukelele will hold a performance to showcase their learning from the year and the progression from Y2 to Y4.
- Christmas performances in EYFS and KS1 inclusive of all children
- Christmas performances of KS2 for children who are interested both inside and outside of school
- School choirs' performances – our school choir perform at school events and hold an assembly each year to showcase their talents. Last year the choir performed at The Dome as part of A Christmas Carol hosted by Rainbow Choir Connections. The school choir is for KS2 pupils only.
- Trust Choir performances – our trust choir perform at local music festivals and concerts each year. Last year the choir performed at The Don Vally Festival and The Music for Youth Festival. The Trust Choir is for UKS2 pupils only.
- Trust Ensemble performances – our trust ensemble perform at local music concerts each year and offer parent performances at the end of the academic year. The Ensemble is for UKS2 pupils only.
- Rocksteady performances. Rocksteady will hold performances in school throughout the year at the end of each term. They allow parents of performers to attend and request that all school pupils are offered the option to observe. Rocksteady is open to all pupils throughout school if they wish to take up an instrument on offer.

In the future

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

Curriculum music

A focus on progression in a new instrument (Glockenspiel)

A focus on building composition into the end of each unit rather than the end of year.
This will be supported by the use of Charanga

SEND specific music curriculum (Trust wide)

Musical experiences

We hope to be able to work with some outside agencies to help provide a wide opportunity for seeing live music performances and encouraging composition.

Further information (optional)

Our music development has been completed in conjunction with the Rose Learning Trust and their overarching vision of music in line with the model music curriculum.

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.

Our local music hub is [Doncaster Music Hub](#)

Our school is part of the Rose Learning Trust with a trust-wide music development plan.