

Music development plan summary: Scawsby Junior Academy

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24.

Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	August 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Sarah Boyd
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Sarah Boyd
Name of local music hub	Doncaster
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rose Connect Choir

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:

“Music education opens doors that help children pass from school into the world around them – a world of work, culture, intellectual activity, and human involvement. The future of our nation depends on providing our children with a complete education that includes music.” (Gerald Ford)

“Music is a more potent instrument than any other for education, because rhythm and harmony find their way into the inward places of the soul.” (Plato)

Our aim at Scawsby Junior Academy is to provide a happy, safe and stimulating environment where each child is valued and encouraged to reach their full potential. We believe that music is important because it can provide fulfilment throughout life. It is a powerful, unique form of communication that can change the way pupils feel, think and act. It transcends different cultures, abilities and generations. Listening to and making music fulfils an instinctive human need for self-expression and creativity. It stimulates responses on both emotional and intellectual levels. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject.

At Scawsby Junior Academy, we endeavour to provide a rich and varied musical curriculum with progressive learning of fundamental music techniques at its core, along with building knowledge within the key areas of singing, listening and appraising, composing and performing.

As part of our music curriculum, all our children will learn to play at least 2 different musical instruments during their time at our school, with strong links to outside agencies should they wish to extend this learning further. Music is a central part of our curriculum and our aim is to give children the tools and skills they need to become expressive musicians, regularly reflecting on their own appreciation of music through exposure to a variety of different styles and genres of music. We aim to do this by progressively developing children's understanding of aural skills, improvisation, memorisation, composition and the fundamental music skills including staff notation.

Our school music curriculum is informed by the [model music curriculum](#) (March 2021), non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 3. Key aspects of our provision include:

- Music curriculum (based on the MMC) which includes the use of music technology
- Use of Charanga to enhance teaching of MMC
- Classroom instrumental teaching (First Access and Charanga)
- Progression from classroom instrumental teaching
- Links with external music organisations (DMH, darts, Hill House, Young Voices)
- Succession planning and CPD
- Choir (Young Voices)
- Performing Arts Club
- Trust Choir
- Trust Ensemble
- Variety of singing opportunities including whole school singing assemblies, through the Charanga Music Curriculum and wider singing opportunities (Young Voices and Performing Arts)
- Regular performance opportunities
- Transition to secondary schools

Rhythmic and melodic musical instruments are part of classroom teaching (MMC, Charanga) across the school.

Furthermore, we work alongside Doncaster Music Hub to ensure that all children have the opportunity to learn at least two musical instruments during their time in junior school:

Year 3- Samba whole class (DMH)

Year 4- ukulele whole class (DMH)

Instruments are provided by the local music service as part of the First Access programme.

Throughout the year, every child will have at least 45 minutes of musical tuition in the classroom, through First Access or Charanga, and take part in whole school music appreciation/ singing assemblies for 30 minutes per week.

Classroom Instrumental Teaching

As part of the weekly teaching of the Charanga curriculum, each year group has access to recorders or glockenspiels throughout each unit to embed their understanding of music skills.

Doncaster Music Hub will provide teachers for the teaching of recorder, ukulele and small guitar for the First Access Lessons.

Progression Pathways

Pupils who are identified as particularly enjoying or showing proficiency in playing a particular musical instrument during First Access Doncaster Music Hub Lessons will be encouraged and signposted to local music hub ensembles. It is our long term aim in Scawsby Junior Academy to establish an extra-curricular recorder ensemble (LKS2) and strings ensemble (UKS2).

SEND

At Scawsby Junior Academy, we develop a responsive and adaptive curriculum through:

- Setting suitable learning challenges: It is the aim of the school that children should be given achievable learning targets, and be motivated by success. This may involve deepening children's Music skills and understanding, so that all children's learning needs are catered for, and pupils achieve as high a standard as possible.
- Responding to pupils' diverse learning needs: Music at Scawsby Junior School is planned so that all pupils can take part in lessons fully and effectively so that there is an equality of opportunity through teaching approaches.

Music at Scawsby Junior Academy is planned so that potential barriers to learning and assessment for individuals and groups of pupils are overcome. This is achieved through:

- Provision being made where necessary to support individuals or groups of pupils to enable them to participate effectively in Music lessons.
- Pupils' understanding being developed through the use of all available senses and experiences.
- Aspects of the programmes of study that may present specific difficulties for individuals being identified.

A responsive and adaptive Music curriculum is also achieved through:

- Support to access texts and pieces of music (larger print or audio where available)
- The use of alternative communication methods e.g. ICT or audio.
- Non-visual means to access sources of information when undertaking musical activities.
- Allowing children to express their understanding in a method that is accessible and enjoyable for them.
- Adapted instruments where necessary (coloured keys, strings etc for example).

Scawsby Junior School links with external music organisations

Doncaster music hub ([click here](#))

darts ([click here](#))

Royal Opera House ([click here](#))

Artsmark ([click here](#))

Transition

We feed to a number of secondary schools and make sure that individual conversations take place between our teaching staff and the school to which the child is attending. Information regarding the instruments that individual children play and their musical aptitude will be part of the individual conversations.

We strive to involve children in Doncaster Music Service ensembles during their time at Scawsby Junior Academy so that progression is supported outside of school curriculum time.

A link to our school website with music curriculum information is [here](#)

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

Pupils who are identified as particularly enjoying or showing proficiency in playing a particular musical instrument during First Access Doncaster Music Hub Lessons will be encouraged and signposted to local music hub ensembles. It is our long term aim in Scawsby Junior Academy to establish an extra- curricular recorder ensemble (LKS2) and strings ensemble (UKS2).

Range of instruments taught at Scawsby Junior Academy include:

- Glockenspiel
- Recorder
- Ukulele
- Samba drums

Choir

At Scawsby Junior Academy, we are proud to have an established choir that is highly subscribed to each year. This is offered as an extra-curricular activity for 90 minutes per week. Any child who wishes to take part can join our choir. We have a variety of regular performance activities throughout the academic year, both in and out of school. These include performing to the rest of the school in assemblies, Christmas and Easter coffee mornings, Christmas carol singing in the community and an annual trip to Young Voices at Sheffield Arena.

Trust Choir

A small group of our children take part in our Trust Choir, which is run by Rainbow Connections. These children were auditioned to take part and join up with other children from the other Trust schools on a monthly basis to rehearse and perform. Through the Trust Choir, the children have taken part in different arts festivals including The Don Valley Festival and The Robin Hood Festival. Performance links have also been made with Hill House School.

Performing Arts Club

During the spring and summer term, we offer the children an opportunity to take part in our extra-curricular Performing Arts Club. Again, this is offered to any child in the school who wishes to take part and gives the children the opportunity to take part in singing, dancing and drama activities on an individual, small group and ensemble basis, leading to an end- of- year musical performance.

Doncaster Music Hub ensembles

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

Trust ensembles

A small group of our children take part in our Rose Learning Trust ensemble group, meeting once a month to rehearse and perform.

Whole school singing assemblies

Children thoroughly enjoy, and look forward to, weekly singing assemblies. The assemblies consist of:

- Music appreciation activities- exposing children to a range of musical styles, genres, instruments and discussing the musical elements used. The BBC Ten pieces website is used to support the delivery of this.
- Learning songs from different genres and learning a selection of songs that link to our school RESPECT values.

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.

At Scawsby Junior Academy, we feel it is important for children to experience a range of live musical performances. Research shows that music allows us to connect with the world around us and has proven benefits to mental health and well-being.

The following details events that we offer:

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Learning songs from different genres and learning a selection of songs that link to our school RESPECT values.

Pantomime visit

Each year, we give every child in the school a chance to take part in a trip to the Cast Theatre, Doncaster to experience live music, dancing and drama in their annual pantomime performance.

Performance opportunities

Our school choir performs regularly in both in and out of school contexts including:

- Assemblies
- Coffee mornings
- Young Voices
- Community engagement activities (Christmas Light Switch on for example)

Young Voices is a massed choir event that takes place at arenas around the country. This is open to any child who wishes to take part each year. [Click here](#)

Our school Performing Arts Club delivers an annual end of year/ Christmas musical performance to the rest of the school, parents and members of the wider school and Trust community. In preparation for this, the children perform excerpts regularly to the school in assemblies and teach the other children some of the material on occasion. Previous performances have been Mary Poppins, The Lion King, Oliver! Jr and Aladdin.

Each class learning a musical instrument will have the opportunity to perform to parents at least once a year.

Trust Choir performances- our Trust choir members perform at local music festivals and concerts. Last year, we were successful in winning our category in the Robin Hood Music Festival and the Don Valley Music Festival.

Robin Hood Music Festival- link for further information [click here](#)

Don Valley Music Festival- link for further information [click here](#)

Doncaster Music Hub Performance

Children across the school have the opportunity to experience a live musical performance from musicians within the Doncaster music hub each year.

In the future

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

As a school we are striving to achieve the Artsmark award.

Curriculum music

- Monitor the implementation and delivery of the Charanga music curriculum and the First Access musical instrument teaching.
- Ensure that progression of skills is evident across the key stage.
- Continue to monitor adaptations required for specific children across the key stage as part of the Adaptive teaching model.

Musical experiences

- Continue to establish music appreciation in whole school assemblies, exposing children to a wide range of musical genres and styles.

Further information (optional)

This music development plan forms part of the school developing excellence plan and its impact will be monitored by the curriculum leader, members of SLT and ELT and the governors.

The Trust quality assurance model ensures that leaders are held to account for the quality of the school curriculum and the progression of the SDP.

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

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.