Music Development Plan

Music development plan summary: Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	October 26
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 27
Name of the school music lead	Abigail Townsend
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Michelle Hume – Curriculum lead
Name of local music hub	Lancashire
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

Whittlefield Primary School offers a curriculum designed to support all pupils including those with SEND and disabilities. All staff adapt and prepare lessons in accordance to their cohort using Charanga. For information about the curriculum at Whittlefield, please click the link https://www.whittlefield.lancs.sch.uk/page/music/149950

The curriculum has been carefully designed and informed by the model music curriculum, whilst considering the goals of the NPME (National Plan for Music Education) which are:

- All children and young people receive a high-quality music education in the early years and school
- All music educators work in partnership, with children and young people's needs and interests at their heart
- All children and young people with musical interests and talents have the opportunity to progress, including professionally

At Whittlefield, each primary aged child accesses a 45-minute lesson per week every half term. This is supplemented by singing assemblies, an hour instrument lesson in Year 4 and music across the Wider Curriculum. This music curriculum is delivered with the support of Charanga an online music curriculum. This shows progression of skills, knowledge and vocabulary across the year groups giving the children a chance to develop musical knowledge and skills. Children with SEND are included and celebrated and all children are formatively assessed and invited to join clubs and choir if they show particular talent.

In EYFS music can be seen across all of the 7 areas of learning in teacher led activities and across our continuous provision where they are given the opportunity to make and explore sounds and sing and explore rhymes.

Whittlefield is well-resourced for musical instruments and both percussion and tuned instruments are included in our lessons across ks1 and ks2. All of our ks2 pupils are given the opportunity to learn how to play a brass instrument with a music practitioner who we liaise with regularly ensuring all children have access to the curriculum, and achieve well.

The children are also given opportunities to sing across each year group with an end of year performance element of music. The children are given opportunities to perform elements of music within our yearly nativity performances.

Part B: Extra 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.

At Whittlefield, Children are given the opportunity to join a choir in the school and this performs across the year, always resulting in a large concert in the local area e.g. Let's Go Sing. They also sing across the community. Children in our school are often signposted to Burnley Music Centre for further after school tuition. This offers a variety of opportunities from woodwind, ensembles, guitar and musical theory and is heavily subsidised so that it's accessible for all.

Part C: Musical events

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 Whittlefield we are always on the lookout for opportunities for our children to perform and watch other musicians perform. In this academic year our children will be given the chance to join choir and perform at The Blackburn Ice Arena. We will also be putting on a Year 6 end of year performance at school which all children will be invited to audition for.
All children across the school will perform as part of their musical curriculum. The EYFS children perform in a nativity and at a local care home. Year 1 and 2 also perform at Christmas time to parents and the school. Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 perform to parents at Christmas time. All of the school will take part in a carol service and years 1 - 6 in a harvest festival. Set out what musical experiences are planned for the academic year, including regular events such as singing in assembly, musical performances, concerts and shows at the school.

In the future

Whilst we are aware that we provide good musical provision at Whittlefield, we know that there are always areas for development and always strive for further success. Across the next academic year, we have a few areas for development.
These are:

- To provide an opportunity for children to further develop the skills started in Music Lessons by giving parents the opportunity to enrol in music tuition,
- To further develop our links across the community giving our choir more opportunities to perform locally.
- To give children the opportunity to see more live performances in school.
- To further develop the use of musical technology within our school curriculum.
- To inspire our children further into performing by allowing them to have access to more live performances.

This is about what the school is planning for subsequent