

Farndon Music Development Plan

Introduction

At Farndon Primary School we are committed to providing all children with learning opportunities to engage in Music.

Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. A high-quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.

As pupils progress, they should develop a critical engagement with music, allowing them to compose, and to listen with discrimination to the best in the musical canon.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	Academic Year 2025 - 26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Lorna Maclean
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	See above
Name of local music hub	Music for Life
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
- musical experiences

This report will also make clear 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.

Farndon Primary School's Music Curriculum

Our Music curriculum is part of our "Creative" team in school and all yearly overview, curriculum plans and subject policy can be accessed by clicking on the following link:

[Farndon School Website](#)

Our School's Intent

We aim to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music.
- Be taught to sing, create and compose music.
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated.

Within our school, the intention is that children gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres.

Our objective at Farndon Primary is to develop a curiosity for the subject, as well as an understanding and acceptance of the validity and importance of all types of music, and an unbiased respect for the role that music may wish to be expressed in any person's life. We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community, and are able to use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

Our School's Implementation

The music curriculum ensures students sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom activities as well as singing in assemblies, various concerts and performances, the learning of instruments, and the joining of one of our musical ensembles. Our curriculum follows the Model Music Curriculum (MMC) through the Charanga scheme. As a school, we have created a personalised 2 year rolling programme.

The elements of music are taught in the classroom lessons so that children are able to use some of the language of music to dissect it, and understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed.

In the classroom, students learn how to play an instrument, from all four main instrument groups of wind, strings, percussion and keyboards. In doing so, pupils understand the different principle of each method of creating notes, as well as how to read basic music notation. They also learn how to compose, focusing on different dimensions of music, which in turn feeds their understanding when listening, playing, or analysing music.

Composing or performing using body percussion and vocal sounds is also part of the curriculum, which develops the understanding of musical elements without the added complexity of an instrument. This is achieved through the Charanga scheme and the Wider Opportunities programme where Year 5 pupils learn a strings instrument.

Each of the lessons that are part of the coherent teaching sequence follow these elements:

- Musicianship
- Listening and Appraising
- Singing
- Playing
- Performing

Useful Documents



Music Policy



Music Curriculum



Music 2 Year Programme

SEND Provision in Music

- We publish equality objectives under the Equality Act 2010 and consider whether we can helpfully cover greater inclusion of pupils with SEND in the school’s curriculum – including music.
- We challenge any pre-conceptions about the musical potential of a child with particular needs and discuss adjustments with the pupils, and, where appropriate, their parents and carers.
- Adjustments range from differentiating resources, to providing specific equipment, adaptation or technology to ensure music is accessible.
- Adaptive instruments are celebrated as much as other types of instrument, and teachers are supportive of music-making, using these instruments.

Curriculum Time: Music

EYFS	45 minute weekly music session
Key Stage 1	45 minute weekly music lesson in class 20 minute singing in the hall weekly
Key Stage 2	45 minute weekly music lesson in class 20 minute singing in the hall weekly

Curriculum Time: Singing or Playing an Instrument

- Each Monday, we have singing assemblies for each Key Stage. Pupils are taught to sing as an ensemble for public performances at key events such as Harvest, Christmas and Easter. Song choices are of the traditional types sung in school and also more modern songs from POP UK.
- All Year 5 pupils are given a year’s free tuition on a string instrument and taught by a music teacher and / or the school’s music lead. In each session, they are taught as a whole-class ensemble. This is partly funded by the First Access programme and then the School funds the rest.
- Year 6 pupils are given the opportunity to continue with the cello or violin with our tutor.

- Abbey Gate college provide a teacher to work with classes on singing, building towards a concert performance.

Curriculum Time: Music For Life

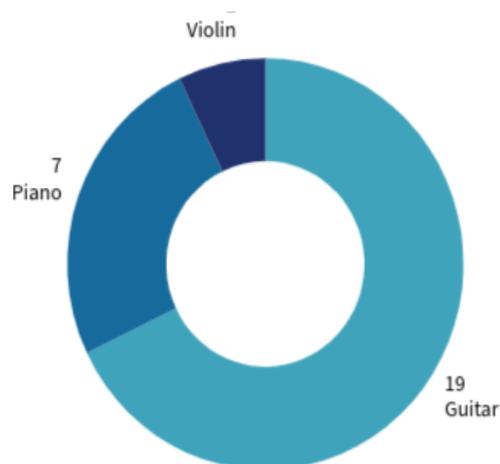
- The school pays into Edsential for whole class courses which are led by a Music tutor. This is within Year 5, where the pupils choose between a cello or violin. These aim to provide an insight into what it is like to learn a musical instrument, with an intention to inspires our pupils and support parents who then wish to continue to learn an instrument through formal lessons. They also work towards performing with the Halle orchestra in the summer term at Bridgewater Hall.

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.

Music Tuition:

- Music Tuition 2025 – 26: **10%** of pupils accessed tuition (down 3% on last year). **61%** boys; **39%** girls
- 1 pupil who are in receipt of free school meals is accessing music tuition.
- Graph showing the break-down of the amount of tuition for the different instruments.



Musical Instruments Offered:

All our additional music tuition is booked through Music For Life. The link to their webpage is on our school website: [Music For Life](#)

String	Woodwind	Brass	Percussion	Percussive Chordophone
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Viola	Recorder	Tuba	Drums	Piano
Violin	Bassoon	Trumpet		Keyboard
Ukulele	Clarinet	Trombone		
Guitar	Flute	Saxophone		
Cello	Oboe	Horn		
Double Bass	Piccolo	Cornet		
		Euphonium		

Rehearsal and Practise:

- We have the part of a room beyond the photocopier which is used for musical practise.
- At certain points of the day, the Studio Hall and Before and School Care room are used for rehearsal opportunities.

Part C: Musical experiences and performances

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 Performances

- Whole School performance in church for Harvest festival. Includes singing, musical accompaniments, ostinatos and solo singing.
- Early Years Nativity performances which include singing.
- Infant Christmas Carol, along with Nativity, performance to parents on stage in school.
- Junior Christmas Carol concert in church. Includes signing, ostinatos, solo singing and musical accompaniments.
- Year 5, as part of the wider opportunities programme, perform with their string instrument each term as an ensemble to their parents.
- Pupils learning to play guitar perform as an ensemble to the whole school and parents once a year.
- Performance in Chester Cathedral
- Choir singing within Chester Market

Musical Experiences

- Our Year 6 pupils link with Abbey Gate college and perform in their stage show as an ensemble of singers. They also perform within Chester cathedral.
- Upper Junior pupils experience musical theatre in either Chester, Liverpool or Manchester.
- Years 1 – 4 pupils visit the theatre for a traditional pantomime performance.

- Year 5 pupils visit and perform at the Halle, with their parents in the audience.
- Year 6 go to the theatre to see a musical when they go to London.
- Year 2 are given the opportunity to experience a violin and cello concert in the summer term with our strings tutor. This session allows the children to see and hear the instruments being played live for the first time for almost every child.
- Key Strings, a group who come into school to perform on many string instruments – some of which are historical. They share the history of strings instruments and perform in a variety of musical styles, including baroque and romantic eras.
- Year 4 pupils go to the Co-Op Arena in Manchester for Young Voices.

Charging Information

- For full details in charging for musical tuition, events or performances, please see our school's Charging and Remissions policy. [Link here:](#)
- Remission or support in costs is available for pupils in category A, for teaching staff employed to provide tuition in playing a musical instrument, where the tuition is an optional extra for an individual pupil.

In the Future...

- Introduce Key Stage 2 to BBC Ten Pieces: this opens up the world of classical music in Key Stage 2.
- Year 5 strings to perform to the rest of the school to inspire others.
- Through Music For Life, organise an assembly in the Autumn term with live music and interactive activities designed to get pupils excited about music.
- Through Music For Life, organise a Roadshow which includes a professional live band to deliver a high quality, interactive concert for the whole school.
- Explore ways to encourage disadvantaged pupils to take up music tuition.
- In singing Key Stage assemblies and whole school Friday assemblies entrance music to be played with an accompanying slide for music appreciation. Slides include historical timelines making clear its period and chronology and information on the composer.
- Promote to the children the playing of a brass instrument as numbers have been historically low for the last few years.
- Encourage more pupils to take up learning an instrument as numbers are down on previous years.