



Davenham Church of England Primary School

'...encourage one another and build each other up...'

1 Thessalonians 5:11.

Working Together, Playing Together, Serving God and Serving Others

MUSIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN SUMMARY

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	October 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 2027
Name of local music hub	Edsential

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/carers to 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 Davenham, the intention is that pupils gain a firm understanding of what music is through singing, listening, composing and performing. This includes the study of a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres. Our objective at Davenham 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 that pupils understand the value and importance of music in the wider community, and can use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

Our music curriculum provides opportunities for pupils to sing, listen, compose, appraise and perform. These are embedded in the classroom activities as well as the weekly Songs of Praise, various concerts and performances, the learning of instruments, and the optional joining of one of our musical ensembles. The different elements of music are taught in the classroom lessons so that pupils can use some of the language of music to dissect it, and understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed. In the classroom pupils learn how to play a variety of instruments and begin to 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; focussing 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. This develops an understanding of musical elements without the added complexity of an instrument.

Pupils have access to a varied programme, which allows them to discover areas of strength, as well as areas they might like to improve upon. The integral nature of music and the learner creates an enormously rich palette from which pupils may access fundamental abilities such as: achievement, self-confidence, interaction with and awareness of others, and self-reflection.

Music will also develop an understanding of culture and history, both in relation to pupils individually, as well as different ethnicities from across the world. Pupils can enjoy music, in different ways - as a listener, creator or performer.

The Music curriculum is taught by class teachers. Class teaching includes both cooperative work and individual work. Pupils are encouraged to discuss their ideas and findings and to present them creatively and in different ways. We currently use the Music Express Scheme of Work.

Class teachers spend around 30 minutes per week with each class covering the learning areas of singing, listening, composing and performing. Pupils can play a wide range of percussion instruments and tuned percussion e.g. xylophone, chime bars and glockenspiels. Specialist brass tutors teach Year 5 and 6 for an hour a week. School provides each UKS2 pupil with a brass instrument which can take home. There is no cost to parents/carers for their child's instrument.

Music plays an important part in the life of our school. It is available to every pupil and all pupils take part in activities, making a positive contribution to the life of the school and local community.

Pupils with Special Education Needs participate fully within the classroom. They may be given extra support provided by the SENDCO or by teaching assistants. This may also include Quality First teaching in the classroom and the use of Makaton to support pupils with speech and language barriers. Pupils for whom English is a second language will be given additional support, where appropriate.

Pupils with ability and flair for Music are provided with extension opportunities using a wide variety of materials and projects to encourage deeper learning of their curriculum.

We work in partnership with the Cheshire West and Chester Music Hub Edsential.

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

We offer a range of guitar, keyboard, woodwind and drumming lessons from our peripatetic music tutors who visit school on a weekly basis. Music tutors assess pupils, record progress, and make decisions on entry to music qualifications/exams.

Extra-Curricular Music

Collective Worship takes place in the hall and the whole school come together to sing a wide variety of songs e.g. traditional, modern, iSing Pop. Yr5/6 pupils are encouraged to lead the Makaton signing at the front of the hall. Pupils sing in different parts i.e. two/three parts, call and response. Songs are accompanied on the piano, with a CD or streamed online. Singing or listening to music is included in most worship sessions. Staff have access to our school account from Out of the Ark and can stream songs online for Class Worship or Family Services.

Access to Instruments

UKS2 are all given a brass instrument at the start of Year 5. There is no cost to parents/carers for this instrument and each child can take it home after their weekly brass lesson to give the pupils an opportunity to practice and progress.

Pupils who are being taught by peripatetic music tutors bring their own instrument from home. Where there are financial barriers, we will look to support parents / carers with the cost of music lessons and the hire of an instrument.

Peripatetic Music Tutors enter pupils for music exams, certificates are shared in whole school worship to celebrate individual achievements.

We have a designated Music Room teaching area for peripatetic tutors and for lunchtime/after school clubs.

Part C: Musical 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.

Yr3/4 lead our Harvest Festival in St Wilfrid's Church for the whole school and parents/carers. The pupils perform readings and songs inspired from a Harvest Musical.

Christmas Nativities are performed in the hall by EYFS and Yr1/2, parents/ carers and grandparents are invited to watch the performances.

UKS2 lead our Christingle Service on the last day of term at St Wilfrid's Church for the whole school and parents/carers of Y5/6, and our Woodwind pupils perform pieces as a Call to Worship.

Pupils carol sing around the village, or at Nursing Homes and spread the joy of Christmas in the local community.

All pupils can perform in the Christmas Talent Show (organised in Key Stages) and share their own talents of singing, playing instruments, dancing etc.

EYFS invite parents/carers to St Wilfrid's Church on the Friday closest to Mothering Sunday for a Big Family Service. The pupils share reflections and poems about people who care for them and sing songs chosen for this occasion. Refreshments are served as everyone arrives.

Pupils sing Easter songs at Davenham Hall for the residents, staff and visitors.

Brassed Off from The County High School Leftwich perform for our Y5/6 pupils, we warmly welcome back ex-pupils, and they play a selection of pieces. The teacher who leads Brass Off at our main feeder high school, is also one of our Brass tutors. This provides continuity for pupils who continue with brass lessons at the high school.

KS1 lead our Easter Service on the last day of the Spring Term in St Wilfrid's Church. They retell the story of Easter through readings and songs for the whole school and parents/carers of Y1/2.

Yr5 take part in Northwich Sings at The Brio Memorial Court when local primary schools come together to perform songs, readings and dances. Parents/Carers are invited to watch the performance at a small ticket price.

Y6 perform a musical play in the local theatre for their families. Pupils are encouraged to audition for parts, attend a weekly extra-curricular play club and learn their lines and songs. Yr6 perform solos, duets, and ensemble pieces during the play and come together for whole year group songs which also involve dances.

At the FODS Summer Fair pupils perform a variety of songs on the playground for parent/carers. The whole school perform at special outdoor events on the playground for their families to celebrate a Jubilee, VE Day or Coronation Day.

Y5 perform at The Bridgewater Hall for 'Come and Play with The Halle', they learn pieces in their weekly brass lessons and parents/carers can buy reasonably priced audience tickets. The pupils play alongside The Halle, sing songs and listen to a varied programme of classical music performed live.

Pupils sing at The Mother's Union Strawberry Tea at St Wilfrid's Church and at local Nursing Homes.

Parents/Carers are invited to our end of year Strings, Woodwind, Keyboard and Drums Assembly and pupils taught by our peripatetic music tutors perform a variety of pieces i.e. solos, duets or in an ensemble.

Yr6 attend the Leavers' Service at Chester Cathedral. They learn selected songs and then join with schools from across Chester Diocese to commemorate the end of their primary school years. On the last day of term Y6 share memories and perform songs (chosen as a year group) in their Leavers Service for the whole school and parents/carers at St Wilfrid's Church.

The Ethos Group lead a number of services across the academic year at our local church Saint Wilfrid's.

In the future...

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

Music already has a high profile at Davenham. We value the role it plays in supporting the development of the whole child. We do however strive to improve outcomes for pupils.

Staff and Pupil Voice surveys take place in July. This opportunity means that the subject leader can review what has been enjoyed over the past academic year, how music makes us feel and what musical opportunities staff and pupils would like to have over the next year. The feedback is recorded, shared with SLT and has been included in our Music Action Plan.

We liaise closely with The County High School to observe the musical achievements of ex-pupils and draw on the expertise of staff there.

Pupils can attend regular events throughout the academic year which highlight and celebrate how much can be achieved musically.