

Music development plan summary: Plumpton School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	June 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2026
Name of the school music lead	Sarah Penny
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Sarah Penny
Name of local music hub	Cumbria Music Hub

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 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.'

National Curriculum, 2014

Music is an integral part of the curriculum, enabling children to be reflective and expressive musicians, developing their own appreciation of music through the opportunities we provide as a school. Our curriculum is informed by the principles of the Model Music Curriculum and the foundations include a selection of units from The Oak Academy. At Plumpton School we strive to provide a rich and varied musical curriculum

that nurtures fundamental musical techniques alongside building musical knowledge within:

- Singing
- Listening
- Composing
- Performing

We aim to develop children's understanding of aural skills, improvisation, memorisation and compositional skills. Where possible, we relate our music curriculum to our class topics to broaden cultural and historical links.

We aim to include the equivalent of 40 minutes a week of music teaching. We believe that all children should have the opportunity to learn to sing and play a musical instrument. Music is therefore available to every child and all children take part in musical activities making a positive contribution to the life of the school and local community. Activities both within and outside the classroom are planned in a way that encourages full and active participation by all children. Where ever possible, we arrange opportunities for all children to join with those from other schools to experience large ensembles for performing.

We feed into two secondary schools and ensure that individual transition conversations take place between our teaching staff and the receiving school. Children who play instruments will be highlighted and information is given as to their standard of performance.

Part B: Co-curricular Music and Musical Experiences

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.

All children are invited to participate in music tuition outside of lesson time. Mr Roze, our peripatetic music teacher visits school twice a week to deliver one-to-one and small group lessons in guitar and ukulele and Mrs Penny teaches violin and recorder. The children make good progress and are able to demonstrate their musicality in performances to the school and their families. Tuition fees are mostly covered by parents but may be covered with Pupil Premium money for eligible pupils.

Our Monday Assemblies give the opportunity for children to study music by a different composer each half term. This is planned to offer children to be able to learn how to recognise styles, features and techniques used by different composers from classical to

contemporary. Children have opportunity to respond to the music and express their views and opinions about it.

We love to sing at Plumpton School and choose songs which everyone can join in with during assemblies. Children in EYFS regularly perform and 'teach' the other children songs from simple nursery rhymes to more complex pieces.

Children have opportunity to perform songs, play musical instruments and dance in front of audiences throughout the year: Christmas and school plays provide most opportunities but children also participate in community Carol services, music workshops and cluster singing events in addition to these. On-line workshops and performances also provide opportunity for children experiences of working with other musicians. Children who excel musically have opportunity to extend their learning with activities organised by the local Enrichment Cluster.

In the future

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

As a school we regularly review and develop each area of the curriculum. This year we have identified composition as an area of the curriculum we would like to develop. If possible, staff CPD would be our starting point.

Other areas of focus include:

- To increase opportunity for children to use a wider range of musical instruments and compose their own pieces for these
- To explore digital composition
- To further develop children's use of musical terminology and embed this into pupil's musical experiences
- To review genres within opportunities available to increase music from other cultures
- To further develop links with other schools in the cluster for joint CPD
- To re-establish links with Sunbeams Music Trust to increase opportunities for children with SEND

Further information

The music development plan is monitored by the curriculum leader. Assessment opportunities are usually carried out at the end of a unit and inform teachers of children's

progress. Areas where children do not progress are discussed with the subject lead to enable future planning to close gaps in attainment.

Cumbria Music Hub provides support and resources. [cumbria music hub - Google Search](#)

Blue Jam Arts [BlueJam Arts](#) provides links for CPD and performance opportunities with other schools.

The Department for Education publishes a guide for parents and young people on how they can get involved in and out of school, and where they can go for support beyond the school. [Music education: information for parents and young people - GOV.UK](#)