



Music development plan summary: The Abbey Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	31.8.2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	31.8.2026
Name of the school music lead	Fraser Murray
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Lucy Kelsall
Name of local music hub	Northampton - NMPAT
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Lucie Wickham Music Tuition and Rocksteady

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.

Vision

At The Abbey Primary School, it is our intent that we make music an enjoyable and inclusive learning experience for all children from EYFS to Year 6.

We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical activities through which we aim to build the confidence of every child. We hold regular singing assemblies, concerts and attend festivals, encouraging all children to participate in these, especially encouraging and supporting our PP and SEND pupils, where possible.

Through active listening, singing songs, playing classroom instruments and being involved in our extra-curricular ensembles, children learn about the structure and organisation of music as well as the joy of performing.

We teach our children to listen actively to and appreciate music of different forms and styles, and music from varying countries and cultures, therefore developing their understanding of the world and giving them cultural capital (a listening spine is in development for this purpose)

Children develop descriptive language skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent different feelings, emotions and narratives and this helps improve their well-being.

Children learn musical vocabulary such as duration, dynamics, tempo, pitch, pulse and rhythm (the interrelated dimensions of music) and are encouraged to discuss music using these terms

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.

Music is delivered by a class teachers with sessions for EYFS, KS1 and KS2 pupils.

We use a curriculum for music based on Charanga, which is been adapted to meet the needs of the children at the Abbey Primary to ensure they leave us with an enriched knowledge of the world around them.

In EYFS children will begin to develop their knowledge and understanding of the key areas of music: Singing; Listening; composing/performing ,playing musical instruments. Planned activities will encourage them to explore and invent sounds to accompany stories, sing well-known nursery rhymes and songs and move to music.

We have a long term plans, medium term plans and lesson plans for each lesson.

Assessment

Retrieval – random musicianship quiz is used at the start of every lesson

End of unit check - using video evidence

Questions are tailored to the substantive and disciplinary knowledge taught across the unit plans.

Deepening

Children are encouraged to do deepen their work through various activities depending on the lesson e.g. if we are learning about various metres (year 5) then the children will be challenged by playing in 5/4 or 7/4

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.

Extra-curricular

We are extremely proud to offer the following extra-curricular opportunities in music at The Abbey Primary school which are open to all, with a particular focus on encouraging PP pupils to be involved:-

School choir (Year 3,4,5 and 6)

African Drumming Ensembles - (Year 5 and 6)

Peripatetic Lessons

The Abbey Primary also offers additional instrumental lessons for Violin, Piano, Singing and Guitar from 'Lucie Wickham Music Tuition'. Pupils have the opportunity to take ABRSM Music exams.

Rocksteady also provide band-based peripatetic music service delivered by professionals.

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.

Singing assembly weekly for Year 1 - 6

Performance opportunities:

EYFS/1/2/3 – Christmas performance

Year 4/5/6 – Christingle

Choir – Delapre Abbey, Tesco, Dobbies,

INMAT Big sing

Rocksteady – termly concerts to parents/carers and KS2

African Drumming First Access Project for Year 3 pupils to parents/carers

In the future

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

- > Invite local musicians to visit and perform to provide children with valuable experiences of music. Attend concerts by professional musicians
- > Further liaise with and support our MAT schools – sharing ideas and offering support