

Music Development Plan Applebee Wood School

Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
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Name of the school music lead	Katie Taylor
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Helen Bleasdale
Name of local music hub	Lancashire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our learners 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 learners and parents or carers understand what our school offers to support our learners' 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.

Music at Applebee Wood School is taught in EYFS, Key Stage One, Key Stage Two, Key Stage Three and Key Stage Four. Each Key Stage has their own Music Composite Knowledge Coverage Curriculum Map which is shared with all staff and parents and carers, (mapping can be found here: www.applebeewood.co.uk/our-curriculum)

Each half term has a skill focus, following a cross-curricular theme, alongside an objective taken directly from the National Curriculum. The National Curriculum coverage will be taught at differentiated developmental steps based on the additional needs of our learners.

Our intent is to instil in our learners a love of music and a wide range of genres. To modernise the music curriculum to bring it in line with advancements in musical tastes, technology and potential future careers to provide creative, contemporary and engaging musical opportunities for our students. To provide musical performance opportunities that showcase the talents our outstanding learners possess, promote Applebee Wood in the wider community and develop confidence and self-esteem within our learners.

The following are the inter-related dimensions of music which are taught and revisited/ interwoven throughout the cycles:

- Rhythm - A combination of long and short sounds.
- Beat - The steady pulse that runs throughout a piece of music.
- Texture - The layers of sound in a piece of music and the relationship between them.
- Duration - The length of time that a note is held or played for.
- Dynamics - The variation in volume of the sounds or notes in a piece of music.
- Pitch - How high or low a note is.
- Tempo - The speed of a piece of music.

The following are musical skills (national curriculum) which are taught and revisited/ interwoven throughout the cycles:

- Individual Performance
- Group Performance
- Improvisation
- Appraisal and Evaluation
- Listening
- Singing
- Composing
- Playing Instruments

Part B: Extra-curricular Music and Enrichment:

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.

As part of Applebee Wood School's music offer, learners can take part in our Secondary choir. Our primary choir will also be introduced this year. These are clubs that take place during break times. Learners may have the opportunity to attend large scale choir performances, such as Young Voices (<https://www.youngvoices.co.uk>) in the future. We also run a music and dance club for secondary learners during TGI, which offers a more relaxed approach to singing and dancing. EYFS and Primary learners enjoy sensory massage and music related self and co-regulation activities regularly throughout their day, as part of their routine. We are aiming to invest in new instruments this academic year.

KS4 learners have the opportunity to attend Creativity Works Preston (CWP) as part of their options. They follow a work-based, hands-on learning route, tailored to individual needs and learning styles.

CWP offer a number of qualifications that learners can choose from:

NCFE Level 1 Award in Music Technology

NCFE Level 2 Award in Music Technology

NCFE Level 1 Certificate in Music Technology

NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Music Technology

These qualifications are designed for learners interested in music, music technology and sound recording processes. Their learning is provided within dedicated and bespoke learning spaces giving them opportunities they would not normally have access to within school.

In addition, we have partnerships with the Lancashire Specialist School Music Network, the Lancashire Music Hub and More Music and are exploring further opportunities to work with other external agencies to provide a wider range of opportunities for our learners.

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.

At Applebee Wood School, we have Christmas productions in both our Primary & Secondary departments. These productions incorporate musical performances and allow all students participating a chance to sing and perform. We hold our Applebee Wood's Got Talent annual event for learners to showcase their skills and talents.

Those attending CWP as part of their options, also have opportunities to perform in local care homes, in the CWP showcases and other external performances.

Applebee Wood will be celebrating World Music Day in June with primary and secondary assemblies recognising the importance of music in our lives.

Applebee Wood School is also looking into further opportunities with Rocksteady (live rock band), Druhm (sensory drumming - <https://druhmacademy.co.uk>), More Music (non-verbal vocalising - <https://moremusic.org.uk/send-non-verbal-vocalising/>) and Junior Jam (offering a wide range of after school and holiday clubs, activity days and musical experiences <http://www.juniorjam.co.uk>).