# Music development plan summary: Devonshire Road Primary School

## Overview

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| Detail | Information |
| Academic year that this summary covers | 2024/25 |
| Date this summary was published | 04/09/24 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | 31/07/25 |
| Name of the school music lead | Ashley Luxford |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | Tom Abraham |
| Name of local music hub | Bolton Music Service |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | KAPOW Primary  Rock Steady  Front-row Music |

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 to be the best they can be and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils’ music education.

## Part A: Curriculum music

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| At Devonshire Road Primary School we offer high quality Music sessions to all classes led by an experienced Music specialist, for an hour a week. During this time, class teachers are encouraged to learn from a specialist teacher to gain confidence and knowledge in Music delivery. Our curriculum is progressive and consistent with the model music curriculum criteria, and is able to captivate and spark children’s interests. By delivering the KAPOW Primary condensed music plan, our lessons allow all pupils to achieve and be challenged; accessing music from various genres and cultures.  During our hourly Music sessions, a quarter of the lesson is focussed on enriching pupils singing confidence and ability. Children then have an opportunity to engage in ensemble singing our weekly whole school assemblies, where we inspire all children and staff to participate singing songs across a range of genres and composers.  During December time, the children in EYFS will develop their singing and performing skills by taking part in a Christmas song concert delivered to their parents and carers and Key Stage one Children. In Key Stage One, Autumn 2 Music lessons are rehearsals for a Nativity performance that will be performed to families and the whole school. During Nativity time, Year 1 are given the opportunity to perform a variety of songs and use a variety of musical instruments and Year 2 gain extra responsibilities of performing spoken lines and solo singing alongside the children in Year 1.  Key Stage 2 will be entered into a talent show like performance whereby each year group (Years 3-6) will perform a Christmas or winter themed song to the whole school where they are encouraged to use instruments, solo singing and group singing, to spread festive joy around the school and our community.  Children from EYFS to Year 6 will have the opportunity to investigate and learn a variety of instruments, and challenge themselves by gaining fundamental instrumental skills. Children in Year 4 partake in weekly whole class Ukulele lessons throughout spring term, with performance opportunities to summarise that unit of learning. Our Year 5 pupils complete a South African instrumental unit, following the KAPOW scheme. Throughout the early years, our pupils build-up their musicianship and playing techniques, setting them up for every success in the Key Stage 1 and 2 curriculum.  We have clear guidance on how to support our SEND pupils; our staff know the children exceptionally well and adapt the teaching accordingly to provide an enriched curriculum for all.  Please refer to our [SEND link](https://www.devonshire.bolton.sch.uk/policies) for more details on our adaptations plan. |

## 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.

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| We currently offer a number of opportunities for children to learn how to play musical instruments outside of lesson time. Through Front-row Music, we currently offer ukulele tuition and have done so for a number of years. These are weekly 20 minute sessions and are in small groups of 5 to 6. These lessons are heavily subsidised by the school making these lessons accessible to our low income families. This year, 20% of our ukulele pupils are Pupil Premium. Additionally, a number of our children with SEND undertake ukulele tuition, currently at 11% overall.  By taking part in ukulele lessons, our students have the opportunity to work towards different milestones at the end of each half term which are supported by a variety of resources and themed around different genres of songs.  All of our pupils have the opportunity to join our school choir, ran by our specialist music teacher. Our choir is offered to KS1 pupils and KS2 pupils on a rotation. The choir rehearses weekly during lunchtime, where members of the choir are able to enhance their singing technique through learning an extensive repertoire. Performance opportunities are arranged year round, featuring parent assemblies, school concerts, and performances in the local community. Re-starting this year in summer term, our choir will participate in the Music Festival once more – a wonderful celebration of music with the schools in our community. Additionally, students that attend the choir have the option to collect attendance minutes towards their Children’s University achievement. In academic year 23-24, we had 12 pupils successfully complete their Children’s University passport.  Since 2023, our students have also had the opportunity to join a band operated by Rock Steady. Each band rehearses weekly on a cycle, ensuring our pupils are not missing the same learning content regularly. Rock Steady also provide performance opportunities, for band members and the whole-school. These performances are very popular and have truly sparked greater interest and love for music at our school. |

## 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.

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| In addition to the wonderful extra-curricular experiences our Choir, Rock Steady and Ukulele participants regularly access, musical events and opportunities are embedded into our curriculum and school calendar, allowing all of our children to be the best they can be. Throughout the week, our school assemblies engage in whole-school singing, allowing students to access the positive neurological benefits of music, release endorphins and broaden their knowledge of singing musicianship; singing as an ensemble, singing in parts, singing in harmony (KS2).  Singing is a popular aspect of the KAPOW curriculum, and we pride ourselves on giving assembly performance opportunities to each year group on the completion of their singing units. Our Year 5s learn about Ancient Egypt during autumn term, and work towards singing in parts and harmony.  Our Winter Sing-Off (KS2) and Nativity (KS1) are a highlight of the year for many; our KS2 class teachers work with their class to learn a winter-themed song to perform for parents and carers, and our KS1 teachers practice Nativity-themed songs with their class, with our Year 2 pupils having the added challenge of performing the nativity story.  Another yearly highlight in our calendar is the Year 2 visit to the Pantomime, where our children are taken to the local theatre to experience professional music and drama. The Pantomime inspires our children to then re-create their own performance in our KS1 Nativity.  Students in Year 4 will work towards a performance to their parents and carers, as well as a performance to KS1 at the end of their ukulele whole-class instrumental lessons in spring term.  Finally, children in Year 6 perform a Leaver’s Song to mark the end of their time at Devonshire Road. This is performed to their friends, peers and staff in a whole-school concert in our school hall, and performed once more to their parents and carers.  Extra-curricular music pupils have many performance opportunities throughout the year; ukulele concerts for parents/carers, Rock Steady concerts for the whole-school as well as parents/carers, the choir will perform at assemblies and attend rehearsals and a performance at Victoria Hall.  We strongly believe that our curriculum and extra-curricular music activities allow our children to experience the many wonders of music, whilst supporting the local passionate and professional musicians in our community. |

## In the future

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| At Devonshire Road Primary school we are committed to continually enhancing musical offerings to all pupils. Below are the improvements we plan to implement in the coming years.  During the academic year of 2025-2026, we aim to continue participating in the Bolton Schools Music Festival event during summer, to continue providing an amazing opportunity for children to perform as part of a large choir at a professional venue, alongside experienced musicians. At the beginning of the academic year, different year groups (TBC at the end of 24/25) will have the opportunity to audition for a position on the Choir and there will then be weekly rehearsals where children will learn a variety of genres to match the children’s interests.  We will also be continuing to partner with Rock Steady and Front-row Music, providing band experiences and small-group ukulele lessons to our pupils in Year 1-6, at an affordable rate. Devoted to our children at Devonshire Road, we will continue to recognise interests and talents, and are willing to enquire about other instrumental tuition, should the interest arrive.  We endeavour to embed regular performances where our students can participate as audience members; we will be inviting Rock Steady to perform and engage with our students, nurturing the budding interests of our children. We are also networking with local and nationwide musicians and those within the music industry, with the intention of inviting them to our school to delivery informative workshops to our KS2 pupils about different jobs and career paths. |