

Hardwick Green Primary Academy

Music Development Plan

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Tracey Wright
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Chris Story – Principal & Curriculum Lead
Name of local music hub	Tees Valley Music

At Hardwick Green, music is an integral part of our educational experience. Our music curriculum encourages students to express themselves, build confidence, and enjoy the pure joy of making music together. We believe that music is a universal language that enriches our students' lives and prepares them for a bright future.

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.

Our music curriculum:

In March 2021, the Department for Education released the Model music curriculum (MMC). The MMC offers an approach that schools could follow to deliver the current national curriculum for music. Our school curriculum is informed by the MMC.

We use Kapow Primary as the basic of our Music curriculum, as Kapow have designed a comprehensive Music curriculum that provides a progressive programme of study for music from EYFS to Year 6. This curriculum aligns with the statutory national curriculum and the MMC and covers all key areas of music education.

The MMC splits the curriculum into four areas:

- Singing
- Listening
- Composing
- Musicianship (KS1) or Performance/Instrumental performance (KS2).

Similarly, Kapow Primary's music scheme categorises its curriculum into four strands:

- Performing
- Listening
- Composing
- The History of music.

Although the names of the strands may differ, the overall content is the same between the Kapow Primary scheme of work and the MMC. Both draw from the national curriculum and cover essential areas of music education. For instance, Kapow Primary's scheme includes Singing within Performing, while the MMC covers the History of music within its Listening key area.

You can read our full music curriculum offer, including the 'Long Term Curriculum Plan' on our school's website: <https://hardwickgreenacademy.org/curriculum/subjects/music>

Whole-class instrument tuition (KS2):

The DfE's Model Music Curriculum 2021 states that: *'In Years 3 or 4, it is recommended that each class should start a whole-class instrumental programme lasting a minimum of one term...Opportunities for development should continue beyond the mandatory term.'*

In line with this recommendation, we have a programme of whole-class instrumental tuition for all key stage two. The instruments offered are:



Year 3 / 4 Cycle A

Recorder



Year 3 / 4 Cycle B

Ukulele



Year 5 / 6

Guitar

Each year, pupils learn their instrument for the full year (three termly blocks of 11 twenty-five-minute lessons). In Year 5 and 6, the guitar is learned for two years to allow pupils to develop mastery of the instrument.

After the year-long programme, children will have the opportunity to continue learning their instrument outside of curriculum time (see Part B: Co-curricular music).

Our whole-class instrument programme is delivered by our partners at Tees Valley Music Service.



Teaching time:

Our school meets the recommendation of a timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week:

- Pupils in Key Stage One have a one-hour music lesson each week.
- Pupils in Key Stage Two have one-hour and ten minutes per week for music teaching (a 45-minute music lesson and a 25-minute whole-class instrument tuition lesson).

Part B: Co-curricular music (Music tuition, choirs and ensembles)

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.

Choir:

We have a choir in school for Key Stage Two pupils that runs during lunch time. Our choir attend different events over the year (see Part C: Musical experiences, events and performances).

Instrument tuition and ensemble development:

Across Key Stage Two, after their initial year learning the instruments outlined in Part A, pupils will have the opportunity to learn an instrument in a small group. Pupils hire these instruments, and they take them home and practice. They have the opportunity to achieve officially recognised grades in their instruments.

From Spring Term 2026, children in Year 5 also have the opportunity to learn the trumpet in a small group.



Year 5 – Trumpet

Over time, we aim to develop an ensemble of the instruments used in school (recorder, ukulele, guitar and trumpet) with the possibility of expanding to include more instruments in the future.

Part C: Musical experiences, events and 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.

Assemblies:

Each week Key Stage One and Key Stage Two have a singing assembly. We use the resources from 'Sing Up' and other sources to explore assembly themes and values such as friendship, resilience, kindness, responsibility, respect, gratitude and tolerance, as well as the school calendar features like Harvest and Christmas. Children also sing a range of pop songs and well-known songs from stage and screen, choral, gospel, folk and traditional songs.



Christmas Show:

Each year, the whole school watches a music theatre performance by M&M Theatrical Productions just before Christmas.



Choir Performances:

Our school choir participate in three events at venues in Stockton over the course of the year organised by Tees Valley Music Service. They are joined by a large number of other primary schools from across the borough.



In the future

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

Ensemble: Over time, we aim to develop an ensemble of the instruments used in school (recorder, ukulele, guitar and trumpet) with the possibility of expanding to include more instruments in the future.

School termly performance: Over the course of the 2025-26 academic year, we will be seeking to develop a termly school performance, starting with our choir and our ensemble.

Liver performances: in addition to our music theatre performance, we are looking to book an annual 'concert' allowing the children to experience live music as an audience member at least once a year.

Space: Our school reduced its Pupil Admission Number from 60 to 30 in 2022, meaning that over time a number of spaces in school will no longer be used as classrooms. This means that we be able to develop one of the former classrooms into a 'music room': a dedication space for rehearsals and individual practice. We aim to be able to create this space from September 2027.