

Music Development Plan Summary: Harlowbury Primary School



| Detail | Information |
|--|-------------------------|
| Academic year that this summary covers | 25 to 26 |
| Date this summary was published | Sept 25 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | |
| Name of the school music lead | Samantha Fisk |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | Vicky Early |
| Name of local music hub | Essex Music Hub |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | Rocksteady Music School |

Part A: Curriculum music

Harlowbury Primary School has a well-structured music curriculum that is informed by the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021). Each class spends an hour a week teaching Music, which is delivered by the Class Teachers. The Head of School and Head of Music provide support to the Class Teachers to ensure the curriculum is effectively implemented.

The school incorporates a range of engaging musical activities into the curriculum. Pupils explore classical music through the BBC Ten Pieces Unit, which supports the development of their composition and improvisation skills. Singing is a regular part of the school day, with whole-school singing assemblies and the integration of singing into other lessons to enhance learning.

Pupils have the opportunity to learn a variety of instruments, including recorders, glockenspiels, percussion, and keyboards. These are taught through whole-class ensemble lessons, ensuring that all pupils, including those with SEND, can actively participate. The school has also created a dedicated Music Room to cater for the playing of instruments.

To support the diverse needs of the pupil population, the school has implemented several inclusive practices. SEND pupils are encouraged to participate in music lessons, with the use of Widgits to aid instructions and the option to play an instrument instead of singing if preferred. The Music Room is also available as a calmer space for SEND pupils who may be sensitive to noise.

Potential next steps:

- Explore opportunities to further integrate music into other curriculum areas, creating cross-curricular links and enhancing the overall musical experience for pupils.

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- Consider providing additional training and support for Class Teachers to build their confidence and expertise in delivering high-quality music lessons.
- Investigate the possibility of introducing more individual or small-group instrumental lessons to cater for pupils' diverse musical interests and talents.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Harlowbury Primary School offers a range of co-curricular music activities to enrich the musical experiences of its pupils. The school has a weekly Choir session for Key Stage 2 pupils, led by the Head of Music. This provides an opportunity for pupils to develop their singing skills and participate in collaborative musical performances.

The school also takes part in the Young Voices Programme, which allows pupils to perform alongside other schools in a large-scale choral event. Additionally, the Head of Music leads weekly singing assemblies, further promoting the school's emphasis on vocal music.

The school has established a partnership with the Essex Music Service to provide Toots and Dudes tuition, giving pupils the chance to learn a musical instrument.

In 2025 we have partnered with Rocksteady Music School to deliver fun and inclusive rock and pop band lessons. These weekly music lessons take place in school and are led by highly trained professional musicians who know how to inspire a love for music.

Potential next steps:

- Explore the possibility of expanding the co-curricular music offerings to include additional ensembles, such as a school orchestra or smaller instrumental groups, to cater to a wider range of musical interests.
- Consider introducing more opportunities for pupils to perform their music, such as regular concerts or showcases, to build their confidence and celebrate their achievements.
- Investigate ways to increase the accessibility and inclusivity of the co-curricular music activities, ensuring that all pupils, including those with SEND or from disadvantaged backgrounds, have equal opportunities to participate.

Part C: Musical experiences

Harlowbury Primary School provides a variety of musical experiences for its pupils, both within the school and through external partnerships. The school organises an annual whole-school pantomime trip, which exposes pupils to live theatrical performances and music.

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Each class at the school presents a whole-school assembly, which serves as an assessment opportunity and allows pupils to showcase their musical skills. The school also produces a school production, further enhancing the performance opportunities for pupils.

The school has established partnerships with external organisations, such as the Royal Opera House, to offer additional musical experiences. Year 1 pupils collaborate with the Royal Opera House on an Art and Design project, while Year 2 pupils participate in the "Create and Sing" programme.

The school calendar is packed with exciting musical events, such as the Harvest Festival, Christingle, and Winterfest, giving pupils the opportunity to showcase their musical talents and perform for the school community. In addition, the weekly singing assembly, led by the Head of Music, provides a regular chance for pupils to engage in music. Throughout the year, there are also opportunities for pupils to sing in unison and in parts, performing in front of an audience during events (year groups perform throughout the year) like the Nativity & school musical shows.

Additionally, the school participates in a Year 2 Music Festival with other schools within the academy, fostering a sense of musical community and collaboration.

Potential next steps:

- Explore opportunities to expand the range of musical experiences, such as inviting professional musicians or ensembles to perform for the school or organising visits to live music events.
- Consider introducing more opportunities for cross-phase collaboration, where younger and older pupils can work together on musical projects or performances.
- Investigate ways to further engage the local community in the school's musical activities, such as hosting open-door concerts or inviting parents and guardians to participate in musical events.
- Explore new opportunities to expand the range of musical experiences, with local Music and drama company Live Wire.

In the Future

Harlowbury Primary School is committed to continuously improving its music provision and staying aligned with the latest educational developments. The school plans to move away from the Model Music Curriculum and develop its own Music Curriculum, which will be influenced by the National Curriculum.

Additionally, the school aims to offer more in-school instrumental lessons, providing pupils with greater access to individual or small-group tuition. This will allow the school to cater to

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the diverse musical interests and talents of its pupils, including those with SEND or from disadvantaged backgrounds.

We are also due to move sites in Sept 26 and will have a larger studio facility to provide greater opportunities for music and the arts.

Potential next steps:

- Engage the school community, including teachers, parents, and pupils, in the process of developing the new Music Curriculum to ensure it reflects the school's values and the needs of the local context.
- Investigate potential partnerships with local music organisations or music hubs to expand the range of instrumental lessons and ensemble opportunities available to pupils.
- Consider implementing a system to regularly review and evaluate the impact of the school's music provision, using pupil feedback and assessment data to inform future improvements.
- Develop the use of the Music Studio on the Old Oak Way Site.