

High Clarence 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	Lois Brown / Helen Norris
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Tees Valley Music/ Music Makes Me

At High Clarence, 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

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.

At High Clarence Primary Academy, we invest in a music specialist called Helen Norris from Music Makes Me. Mrs Norris designs bespoke music education resources for children and has written a comprehensive music curriculum which provides progression for our students from EYFS up to Y6.

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).

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

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. The instruments offered are:

EYFS	Year 1 and 2	Year 3 & 4 cycle 1	Year 3 & 4 cycle 2	Year 5 & 6 cycle 1	Year 5 & 6 cycle 2
					

After the year-long programme, children 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 Helen Norris from Music Makes Me Ltd.



Teaching time:

Our school meets the recommendation of a weekly timetabled curriculum music lesson. We also begin our music curriculum as early as EYFS as we want all of our children to be exposed to music teaching.

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

Singing is celebrated at High Clarence Academy; we have singing sessions as well as music lessons with Mrs Norris. We also sing in class assemblies for our parents and carers.

Continued instrument tuition:

As detailed in Part A, pupils learn the recorder, glockenspiel, ukulele, violin and keyboard through whole-class instrument tuition in Key Stages One & Two. Their knowledge and skills of music and instruments from school lessons can be transferred to a wide range of different instruments. For example, the recorder can be a fantastic instrument to prepare students for learning woodwind instruments.

Part C: Musical experiences, events and performances

Assemblies:

We explore a variety of 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.



Performance – The Mayor’s Carol Service – Some of our Y5 and 6 children will take part in the service

Christmas Show:

Each year, the whole school goes to a musical theatre performance.

In the future

Ensemble: We will be aiming, over the course of the year, to develop an instrumental ensemble using the instruments that we teach in school (see Part A: Curriculum music).

School termly performance: Over the course of the 2025-26 academic year, we will develop a termly/seasonal school performance.