



Sandylands Primary school

Music Development Plan Summary

October 2026

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	October 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 2027
Name of the school music lead	Hollie Dixon
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Penny Lupton
Name of local music hub	Lancashire
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	LMS (Lancashire Music Service) Lancaster Singing Festival More Music (Morecambe) Rocksteady

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/ essential enrichments – 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.

At Sandylands, we teach the National Curriculum for Music using our own scheme of work which includes materials from Charanga: Creative Music Schemes and the BBC Classical music – Ten pieces materials. The children will acquire knowledge as they progress through their musical educational journey. This knowledge will enable them to know and remember more, giving them a solid understanding of the subject allowing them to be High School ready.

Children learn three key knowledge aspects

- **Substantive** – key facts, figures
- **Procedural** – development of skills
- **Disciplinary** – The knowledge they need to apply higher order concepts. Knowledge related to a specific subject as a means of enquiry eg. Being a musician

The knowledge is planned for in each subject as **CRITICAL CONTENT**. We then assess against the key aspects to ensure children know, understand and remember more.

The school music curriculum is informed by the DFE Model Music curriculum (March 2021), non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 3.

Music is introduced in the Early Years (Nursery and Reception) as part of the daily activities. When the children first begin, nursery rhymes are played as the children enter. As the year goes on, children sing nursery rhymes and songs, linking to their current topic of learning. Music is also used outdoors, with a

range of instruments available for children to use.

All classes from Years 1 to Year 6 have a weekly 45-minute-long music lesson which gives opportunity for skills to be learned and developed.

Our Sandylands school choir take part each year in the local Lancaster and District Singing Festival as well as performances in the local community (The Midland Hotel and Hill Croft Nursing home)

From Nursery – Year 6, children have the opportunity to take part in additional lessons, where a range of different instruments are available for the children to have a go at, with our resident music teacher, Tom Woods. These instruments include keyboard, guitar and ukelele. This is also available to support the children's mental health.

Furthermore, our partnerships with Lancashire Music Service (LMS) and More Music allow the children to experience a wide experience of music making.

We aim to ensure that all pupils:

- perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians
- learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence
- understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the interrelated dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

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.

Instrumental lessons:

Pupils from Year 3 can access 1:1 or small group instrumental lessons on:

- woodwind instruments
- keyboard
- guitar

and are taught by tutors from Lancashire Music Service as well as our resident music teacher, Tom Woods. All pupils are provided with an instrument that they can take home to practice with.

In addition to this, we are developing a partnership with Rocksteady, who come in to support the children in learning to play instruments such as the keyboard, drums and guitar, as well as singing. Each term they will perform concerts for the school and parents to showcase what they have learnt.

These extra- curricular lessons are chargeable in line with the schools Charging and Remissions policy. However, any child who would like to have a lesson but would be prevented from doing so on financial grounds can apply for subsidised / free tuition.



Ensembles:

Sandylands has an established school choir which all pupils in KS2 are encouraged to be a part of. It meets weekly to rehearse and takes part in a wide range of activities including concerts in the local community (Arndale centre in Morecambe, The Midland Hotel and Hillcroft Nursing home) More recently, our choir performed on Breakfast TV as part of the Eric Morecambe birthday celebrations.

All school music ensembles are free of charge for all pupils to attend.

Wider links:

The school has close links with More Music Morecambe and the children are given the opportunity to participate in various musical workshops including drumming and singing workshops arranged on a termly basis from Reception through to Year 6.

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, as well as essential enrichment opportunities.

Singing in school

Singing is a big part of the life of Sandylands. We regularly sing in our Phase assemblies and enjoy singing known songs as well as learning new ones. Songs will be sent out half termly/termly for the children to practice and sing in class, ready to sing in phase assemblies.

EYFS – Reception and Nursery enjoy lots of nursery rhymes / action songs and musical games.

There is also opportunity across the curriculum to link music with class themes and projects.

The Sandylands school choir meet weekly after school.

School shows

All children in EYFS, Year 1 and 2 will take part in Nativity performances each year to which parents and friends are invited.

Year 6 children put together an End of Year Musical extravaganza 'Songs from the West End'. All children are included and encouraged to take a full and active part in the rehearsals and productions.

In addition to this, in the Summer 1 term, a 'Singathon' will take place. This is where children in Reception – Year 6 will each practice songs with a 'seaside theme', and perform them for parents/carers. Each class will sing their own song and also partner with another year group to perform another:

Reception & Year 6.

Year 1 & Year 5.

Year 2, 3 & Year 4.

Essential Enrichment opportunities

The Sandylands Choir children take part in the Lancaster Singing Festival which features a live band for accompaniment and showcases the skills of local young people in KS3 and KS4.

We seek to facilitate enrichment opportunities to other events as and when they happen and are advertised e.g. Year 5 Lowry trip / trips to local concerts or events organised by More Music When a charge is needed (e.g. for entry to the event or for transport) this is in line with the charging and remissions policy. Parents can apply for support if needed.

Each Year we have various festival style days in which the children have the opportunity to take part in various musical workshops. These events include live music for parents and friend to attend after school too.

In the future

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

As can be seen in the information contained in this document Sandylands already has a strong musical presence – both in the classroom and in providing extra-curricular opportunities beyond the school day.

We constantly keep the music curriculum under review and look for new resources / materials to use along with opportunities to take part in other music making in the locality (e.g. special events / touring performances etc).

Further information

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

The Lancashire Music Hub website contains lots of information on music making opportunities across the area along with the development plan:
<https://www.lancashiremusichub.co.uk/site/>

