

SHIRLEY INFANT SCHOOL MUSIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2025-26

Vision and Intent			
At Shirley Infant School we aim to deliver a high-quality music education which engages and inspires pupils to develop a love of music. We aim to foster creativity, originality, self-confidence and expressiveness. Singing, playing tuned and un-tuned instruments, listening to and responding to a wide range of live and recorded music are all important and regular activities offered to all children. Opportunities are given for performing to a variety of audiences. We aim to; • To foster a love of music • To develop creativity through music • To gain enjoyment for themselves and others. • To help children develop and express their own tastes in music and appreciate the tastes and attitudes of others. • To develop social skills (teamwork and leadership), personal skills (self-esteem, control and confidence). • To develop concentration and memory. • To develop instrumental and vocal skills. • To develop DECLARATIVE knowledge through an understanding of the 'Inter-Related Dimensions of Music' • To develop PROCEDURAL knowledge through the skills of singing, playing, improvising and composing and listening, appraising and responding to music.			
	What do we already include in our provision?		What do we want to achieve next?
Curriculum <i>What our pupils are taught</i>	High-quality weekly music lessons	Our bespoke music curriculum has been planned by our specialist music teacher and is informed by the 'Model Music Curriculum' and the 'National Plan for Music Education'. It is designed so that the areas of learning children study in music lessons build upon prior learning. The progression planned into the scheme of work means that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school building up their declarative and procedural knowledge.	<u>EYFS</u> – Create a song library that non-specialists can access easily and give the children lots of exposure to singing. Further develop links between adult-led music lessons and resources for

		Using adaptive teaching, we ensure that music is inspiring and inclusive for all learners and that every child in school can access musical learning. <u>E.Y.F.S.</u> Children in Year R have a music lesson each week and music-making opportunities set up for them in their child-initiated learning. In EYFS the children learn songs, play collaborative games, listen to and talk about sounds, learn to control a range of handheld percussion instruments, move and dance to music and create sounds using their voices, bodies and instruments. In continuous provision the children have opportunities to use instruments and sound makers. <u>K.S.1</u> In KS1 the children learn to use and manipulate the Inter-Related Dimensions of Music (Musical Elements) through a weekly music lesson and a weekly singing assembly. They learn a range of songs, focusing on following the melody and rhythm and enjoyment of singing. Children listen to and respond to a variety of music. The children follow a listening programme throughout the year which introduces them to a different genre of music each month. Children are given opportunities to listen to four tracks of each style of music and respond through discussion using visual prompts to help them remember key vocabulary.	child-initiated music making. Ensure that there is enhanced provision as well as continuous provision. In EYFS begin to record children's musical learning using ipads in a similar way to KS1. Investigate the potential use of on-line 'floorbooks' as an assessment tool in Year R. Create a song library that non-specialists can access easily and give the children lots of exposure to singing.
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	Vocal Development	The 'Golden Thread of Singing' runs through Shirley Infant School. Children sing songs in singing assemblies (Years 1 and 2) and at singing times in Year R. Songs are an important part of the planned curriculum and a repertoire of topic-related songs are built up throughout the year. Through singing songs, our children learn about the structure and organisation of music and it supports their understanding of pitch, tempo, dynamics, duration, texture and timbre. Songs give our children opportunities to expand their vocabulary, develop their listening skills and enjoy making music together as a group. In EYFS songs are used throughout the day, to help the children with routines and for enjoyment. Many of these songs have a physical element too, so that the children are learning to co-ordinate their voices with actions. Songs in Year R are simple and are characterised by lots of repetition, a limited range of pitches and simple structures such as 'call and response'. As children move	EYFS – transition-time songs will be included in the song library for non-specialists to use. In KS1 the songs are made easily available to class teachers to practise.

		up through the school, the songs they sing become more sophisticated. As well as singing in curriculum music lessons, children in KS1 have a dedicated singing assembly slot every week, led by the music specialist teacher.	
	Resources	The school was recently awarded a grant of £500 from Southampton Schools Music Association. We used this money to replenish our curriculum instruments. The school has a large array of untuned percussion instruments, kept in clearly labelled drawers or on shelves . We have enough chime bar sets for pairs to share in KS1. We use a music trolley to bring instruments into the classrooms when they are being used. We have enough recorders for all children to have one. These are sterilised after each lesson and left in school. We share a class set of djembe drums with other schools within JEP which are used in the summer term.	Plan in the use of the new Acorn Classroom as a room for music lessons.
	Parental involvement	We provide lots of opportunities for the children to share their musical experiences with parents, during their time at school. At Christmas we stage a whole school Christmas nativity at our local church to which all parents are invited. In KS1 each year group performs a 'Celebration Event' related to their curriculum twice a year. Year Two perform a musical Leavers' Show in July.	Pupil Voice – what do pupils like sharing with parents that involves music? Is there anything more that could be done? What would parents like to see happening musically in school?

		Year Two also hold a Recorder Concert in June to showcase the progress they have made over the year. In 2023-24 a programme of visits from musical parents and people from our school community was planned. This gave opportunities for our children to experience live music in school as well as understanding that music can be a career choice. We had the pleasure of watching a guitarist and vocalist, a violin player, a drummer and a trumpet player. These were all very inspiring for the children.	Continue to tap into musical talent amongst our parent community.
	Transition	Before children start in Year R at Shirley Infant School they are invited to a programme of transition events. This includes weekly music sessions with the school's music teacher called 'Little Ladybird' sessions. Teachers We invite the head teacher of Shirley Junior School to our Year 2 Recorder Concert in June. We take our Year 2 children to watch a musical performance by the junior children in the Summer Term. Our music teacher attends regular meetings with the other music leads from local schools within JEP to discuss start and ends points in the curriculum and long term learning objectives.	Create stronger links with the children at Shirley Juniors; • Invite KS2 children who play instruments to perform giving opportunities for our children to hear them play. • Arrange a joint singing event with Year 3.

Co-Curricular Music <i>Other musical opportunities in school</i>	Instrumental Learning	As we are an infant school and because all children learn to play the recorder throughout Year 2 we don't offer any co-curricular instrumental lessons. We do, however, support children to make informed decisions about instruments they might want to learn when they move to Shirley Junior School. When possible we invite instrumental players in to school so that children can make an informed decision about taking up instrumental lessons in the junior school.	
	Vocal opportunities	Many children want to be part of our school choir and we do not audition. Anyone who loves singing can be part of choir. Rehearsals take place on a Friday lunchtime. There are usually several opportunities to take part in community events such as Christmas Singing at Southampton City Farm, St James Road Christmas Tree Festival, St James Park Summer Festival, JEP Summer Festival Concert and various events organised by Southampton and Isle of Wight Music Hub. Teaching videos for choir songs are often uploaded to the school website so that children can practise singing, particularly in preparation for a performance, at home. Part-singing is introduced in our choir, with the choir learning rounds and simple part songs. Choir children are often used as vocal leaders in singing assemblies to model to other children and support more challenging vocal parts.	We will continue to provide opportunities for choirs to sing at events within the community. The choir will be performing at the JEP Summer Festival in July 2026.
	Enrichment	Where possible we take up opportunities offered by Southampton and Isle of Wight Music Hub to improve 'Cultural Capital'.	

		In 2023-24, for example, our Year R children attended a performance of “My Paper Boat” – a collaboration between MAST and Southampton Music Hub. The performance of a musical story took place in a nearby school which we visited. The children prepared songs as part of the curriculum that were included in the performance. Performance Opportunities achieved through: Several choir performances throughout the year including the JEP Summer Festival Concerts (held every two years) and a Christmas concert held at a community event. Harvest Festival Celebration – All children are involved in this event to which our governors and local pre-school children are invited. Our whole school Christmas performance which takes place in our local church. Musical performances twice a year for Years 1 and 2 linked to the curriculum. Opportunities to perform at different venues in the city: St James by the Park Church Southampton City Walls St James Park Festival Central Hall Opportunities for the choir to perform together in the playground or the school hall occur regularly.	Continue to investigate any parents who are musicians and would be willing/able to perform to our pupils and answer questions about their musical careers/hobby.
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Leadership <i>How is Music led and managed?</i>	Executive Head and Governors	Shirley Infant School has a Senior Leadership Team and Governors who believe in the power and value of music education and its ability to change lives. The school funds a music specialist teacher to directly impact children and their musical learning and run extra-curricular activities. Our governors often attend school music events such as our Harvest Festival, the JEP Summer Festival, our Christmas performance and end of year concerts.	
	Music Leaders	The music leader has been in place for 12 years and has established a fully bespoke curriculum across Years R-2, a school choir and regular performance opportunities in school and in our community. The music leader has contributed to the Primary Music Curriculum for Hamwic Education Trust, which has been rolled out to all Trust Primary and Junior schools to use if they wish. CPD attended in 2023-24: Hampshire Music Service Annual Conference Termly Music Hub Panel Meetings ‘The Family Music Hub’ Early Years online training	To attend the Southampton and Isle of Wight Music Curriculum Conference in January 2025.
	Pupils	We aspire to give our pupils a life-long love of music and see every child as a musician. As well as every child receiving a dedicated	

		music lesson every week, we encourage our children to get involved in enrichment and co-curricular activities. It is important that music is accessible to all, and we ensure that the curriculum is broken into small incremental steps so that everyone can succeed. Shirley Infant School pupils love music and it is a central part of our school life. Video evidence is used to capture Pupil Voce which helps us to track progress during pupil conferencing.	
Communities and Partnership <i>How is music at Shirley Infant School shared with others?</i>	• Strong relationship with Southampton and Isle of Wight Music Hub (SIOW Hub) – They provide training and networking opportunities for our music teacher and we involve our pupils in their events where possible. • Strong relationships with other schools in the Trust, particularly those in the JEP (Shirley Juniors, Hollybrook Schools, Wordsworth Primary School and USH). The music leads from these schools meet regularly and plan and put on a large-scale concert every two years with massed choirs and orchestras as well as other community events such as the Shirley Schools’ Summer Fair. • Parents and families – Parents and families are encouraged to attend musical events in schools and are supportive of music in school. • Involvement in the local community – We have taken part in events over the last couple of years at Southampton City Walls, Southampton City Farm, St James Park, St James by the Park Church, Central Hall.	Investigate if any parents are musicians and would be happy to come into school to showcase their talents. We will continue to provide opportunities for choirs to sing at events within the community. The choir will be performing at the JEP Summer Festival in July 2026.	