

Music development plan summary: The Palmer Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	12/7/24
Date this summary will be reviewed	12/7/25
Name of the school music lead	Anne Higginbotham
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	As above
Name of local music hub	Berkshire
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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 Palmer Academy we follow a curriculum which broadly echoes that of the model music curriculum (March 2021) but is developed to include up to date changes in the industry, teacher specialisms and equipment.

Our curriculum includes the following:

- 30-minute weekly lessons
- Singing
- Listening
- Composing
- Performing/Instrumental Performance
- Class instrumental ensembles
- Song writing
- Improvisation

We use Charanga to support the music curriculum at Palmer Academy from EYFS to Year 6.

- Weekly in class music lessons for all children taught by class teacher for 1 hour.
- In class opportunities to sing and play tuned (glockenspiels, recorders and keyboards) and untuned (hand percussion).
- In class opportunities for performance and instrumental/ vocal work each lesson.
- CPD training for all class teachers - onsite with Music lead

Part B: Co-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.

Assemblies:

- We offer a fortnightly singing assembly lead by the music lead.
- We also have a carefully planned programme of music to listen to at the start and end of assemblies. This enhances the music curriculum through revisiting key musical terms alongside opportunities to listen and appreciate a wide range of musical genres.

Extra-curricular:

- Choir club offers an opportunity for children to pursue their passion for singing and enhance their skills. This is led by the music lead or one of our class teachers with music specialism.
- Rock Steady are a separate organisation that come into school and offer peripatetic lessons in school to develop individual musical skills through one of the instruments or vocally. They perform termly to other year groups in the school

School Performances / Events

- EYFS perform a nativity each year which includes singing.
- Years 1-6 perform a Christmas Celebration to parents each year, which includes percussion and singing.
- Year 6 perform a musical in the Summer Term.
- We hold an annual Palmer's Got Talent where pupils can showcase their musical talents.

Part C: Musical experiences

- As part of our 11 before 11 promises our year 6 travel to London each academic year to watch a musical performance on stage.
 - Alternate years we have a school choir from year 4 and 5 who perform in a theatre along with other school choirs.
 - Rock Steady perform to KS2 termly.

In the future

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

2025-2026

- Increase the live performances from professional musicians and singers so that all children are able to enjoy this at least once a year.
 - To increase the profile of the school choir through performances.
 - To ensure that every child is involved with at least one school performance across the academic year.
 - To ensure our school is represented in a large scale multi school choir each year.
 - Review the opportunities for digital music within our school curriculum and co curriculum.