

# Music development plan

## *Hillshott Infant School and Nursery*

### Overview

| Detail   | Information                 |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Academic year that this summary covers   | 2024 - 2025                 |
| Date this summary was published  | December 2024               |
| Date this summary will be reviewed   | December 2025               |
| Name of the school music lead  | Claire Bunyan               |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | As above                    |
| Name of local music hub  | Hertfordshire Music Service |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)            | Rocksteady Music School     |

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. This summary should be read in conjunction with the school's Music policy.

### Part A: Curriculum music

Music is a statutory subject within the National Curriculum and is taught within the Expressive Arts and Design strand of the EYFS curriculum. We follow the statutory requirements of the programme of study for Music (Sept 2014 KS1 and Sept 2021 EYFS) and use the DfE's model music curriculum (March 2021) to ensure relevant skills are covered in KS1.

We refer to the National Curriculum and the DfE's model music curriculum when creating a long term plan for Music in each year group. These detail the themes, skills and repertoire in Music for that year.

Our medium-term plans provide details of the main lessons and activities for each half term. These are published on the school website on individual class pages.

Our daily/weekly lesson plans define what we teach in the short term and ensure an appropriate level of challenge and differentiation in order to maximise progress. In KS1, we aim to provide 1 hour of music provision per week.

In the EYFS, lesson plans are drafted by class teachers taking into account children's interests, themes and development of skills. Towards the end of Reception and in KS1, teachers adapt lesson plans provided by Active Music Digital, our chosen scheme inspired by the teachings of Zoltan Kodaly.

Musical skills are taught progressively, moving from simple to complex in small, logical steps, usually starting with body percussion and vocal sounds before moving on to instruments. Children are explicitly taught the musical elements of rhythm, pulse and pitch and develop their in-tune singing through a wide range of musical repertoire, including chants, songs, rounds, canons, circle games, name games, rhythm games, action games, turn-taking games, puppet games and more. They progress to instrumental activities, arrangements, compositional work and notation as the children gain in experience and confidence.

Our Music curriculum also includes opportunities for children to rehearse and perform to an audience.

We support children with SEND to access our music curriculum by:

- Encouraging expression through voices and alternative forms of communication, e.g. gesture, when responding to music
- Providing access to ICT or specific instruments to overcome challenges with mobility or manipulative skills
- Using visual supports and alternative methods of recording
- Allowing children to wear ear defenders if they are sensitive to noise
- Providing opportunities to learn about music through physical contact with an instrument or sound source where there are hearing difficulties
- Revisiting our 'Triangle of Learning' which includes additional ways we support and challenge children in music lessons.

## Part B: Co-curricular music

At Hillshott Infant School and Nursery, we have used music across the curriculum in the following ways...

- Warm-up songs in Mathematics
- Stimulus for creative writing in English
- Writing poems/songs in English
- Background music for Art lessons
- Mindfulness exercises
- School assemblies
- Computing apps
- Exploring materials of instruments in Science
- Singing rhymes and syllable patterns in Phonics

- Learning Nativity/Easter songs in RE
- Cultural instrument workshops to support topics / One World Week
- Creating dances to match musical rhythms in PE
- Using instruments for instructional purposes e.g. stop/start activities

At Hillshott Infant School, we offer extra-curricular opportunities, such as the chance to join the Hillshott choir or attend a performing arts or music club. These are run by staff within the school, either during lunchtime or after school.

Children from Reception-Year 2 are also invited to join our chosen peripatetic music service, Rocksteady Music School. Parents can pay for their child to learn an electronic instrument in a band, such as keyboard, guitar or drums or they can be the band's singer. Rocksteady rehearse with the selected children once a week and each term, the children perform a song to the rest of the school and their parents. Parents are also updated with their child's progress and development of skills.

## 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, and trips to professional concerts.

Singing assemblies take place once a week. In the Autumn term, these are attended by all KS1 classes and in the Spring and Summer terms, the EYFS Reception classes join them. These are included as part of the recommended 1 hour per week music provision for all children in KS1.

Throughout the year, we do musical performances for different seasonal events. In September / October, the children perform a Harvest song or poem in a special Harvest assembly. The audio of these performances is recorded and uploaded to the relevant class page on the school website. At Christmas, all children perform in either a Carol concert or a Nativity / Christmas play. Towards the the end of the Spring term, the children will learn spring/Easter-themed songs in singing assembly and Year 1 will perform an Easter show to the other children and parents. At the end of the Summer term, Year 2 will perform a Leaver's Assembly to the other children and parents.

Class assemblies are also interspersed throughout the Spring / Summer terms, giving each class an opportunity to perform to the rest of the school and parents to show them some of their key learning. During these assemblies, children will usually perform a music number through song, or by using instruments e.g. Ocarinas.

Children who attend the choir are usually invited to perform both in and out of school, including residential care homes and the local church which helps to enrich their singing experience and make a positive impact on the local community.

We enable all children to have access to the full range of activities involved in Music, including school performances, extra-curricular clubs and trips. Arrangements are made to ensure that children with SEND or medical needs are supported appropriately through reasonable adjustments, additional staffing and/or risk assessments if required.

## In the future

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

Our curriculum intent is as follows:

- To ensure that our children can develop the skills they need to listen, enjoy, create and evaluate music;
- To be inclusive and empowering for all children, regardless of background or need;
- To develop confident singers and performers.

As recommended in the National Plan for Music Education (June 2022) we plan to utilise our local Music Hub for training and resources and develop our music offer in the EYFS to ensure the children are getting a high-quality music education from the start of their school journey. The National Plan also states that in primary schools, singing should be the 'golden thread' through these years, so we will continue to prioritise singing as the foundation to developing strong musicians within our school.

We would also like to further develop staff confidence in leading musical activities outside of curriculum teaching, for example in assemblies and/or clubs and learn new ways to incorporate music technology into our setting.

## Further information

National Curriculum

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-music-programmes-of-study/national-curriculum-in-england-music-programmes-of-study>

National Plan for Music Education

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-power-of-music-to-change-lives-a-national-plan-for-music-education>

Model Music Curriculum

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teaching-music-in-schools>

Hertfordshire Music Service

<https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/>

Rocksteady Music School

<https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>