

Music development plan summary: Great Wood Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mr Stephen Hudson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Lancashire
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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

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.

Within our Music curriculum in KS1 and KS2, we teach all aspects of National Curriculum Music and follow the recommendations of the Model Music Curriculum 2021.

Curriculum music in our school is taught every other half-term for at least 50 minutes each week in KS1 and KS2; additionally, pupils are taught singing in a weekly 20 minute singing assembly and get to listen to music from a range of cultures, genres and time periods in Friday afternoon assembly (as well as in dedicated music lessons). Listening is an area for development across the school; a strong sequence with breadth and scope that spans the school will be developed in time.

In EYFS, KS1 and KS2, every music lesson in our school includes opportunities for singing and listening/appraising. In EYFS/KS1, each lesson also includes a short focus on rhythm and beat. In addition, music lessons either have a focus on playing an instrument (including formal music notation in KS2) or improvising or composing; sometimes a combination. Composing may be done using music technology,

particularly DAWs (Digital Audio Workstations) such as Garage Band and YuStudio in upper KS2.

In KS2, there is a balance of playing, improvising and composition across the year; some music units focus on one element more than another.

In KS1, there is a greater focus on musicianship (i.e. pulse/beat, rhythm and pitch) in line with the Model Music Curriculum. However, there is still a focus on improvisation and composition in KS1; children are given the opportunity to compose and perform rhythms with percussion and compose melodies using voice and glockenspiel. KS1 is taught by one member of staff, providing continuity and familiarity for the children and teacher.

In our half-termly music units, we learn about and explore music from different cultures (for example, Samba from Brazil, music from Africa, sea shanties) although there is scope for further development.

Singing is a strength of the school. Children sing in curriculum music, in assemblies and in musical stage performances. Children in EYFS, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 get to perform their own musical concert for pupils and parents. The other year groups perform in a values assembly which involves singing.

Children sing songs recommended in the Model Music Curriculum, for example, children learn to sing rounds in Y3/4 and increase the range of notes as the pupils get older. Out of the Ark resources are used for KS1-based songs. The repertoire of songs for assemblies and lessons needs further development, as does refresher training for staff leading singing assemblies.

All pupils in KS1 and KS2 have access to whole-class instrument lessons either taught by the class teacher (Y4), or the Music Subject Leader (Y3, Y5 & Y6). Instruments used are full class sets of recorders, electronic keyboards and glockenspiels plus a variety of untuned percussion, all owned by the school. Recorders are taught in Y4 (1 recorder per child). Glockenspiels are taught in Y1/2/3 and in all other classes when appropriate. Samba drums are also taught in Y3 and keyboards are taught in Y5/6 (shared 1 between 2 children).

The Charanga music scheme is used to support the whole class teaching of recorders and keyboards.

Music Technology has been introduced in Y5 and Y6 with Garage Band and YuStudio on iPads (currently shared 1 between 2 children). This is an area to develop down the school.

All pupil premium children are fully engaged with curriculum music. Opportunities are provided in lessons for all SEN pupils have been able to access curriculum music, although sometimes core skill intervention mean some children can be out of class for some of the time.

Years 3, 5 and 6 are taught by the Music Subject Leader, Mr Hudson, which provides continuity for the children and teacher. Year 4 are taught by the class teacher. In EYFS, Music is taught by the class teachers using Charanga.

The Music Lead is in contact with the Lancashire Music Service and Hub, which provides advice and opportunities to develop the curriculum in school.

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.

An Autumn choir is run for Y4/5/6; the children perform Christmas songs for residents in the local community. This is free.

Ukulele club is provided for up to 12 pupils in Year 3 in Spring Term. Children learn the instrument and get the opportunity to perform at the school summer festival. Previous clubs have performed at Lancaster Music Festival. This is a contact to maintain for future opportunities. This is run by a teacher and is free (a returnable deposit is required for loan of school ukuleles).

Peripatetic lessons are promoted within school in assemblies and on the school Facebook page and newsletter.

Pupils can choose from a range of instrument tuition provided by Lancashire Music Service specialist teachers. Current pupils learn electric and acoustic guitar.

One-to-one or small group tuition options are available. These are paid for by parents/carers but can be subsidised or made free depending on circumstance.

Tuition lessons take place upstairs in the Resource Room.

Recorders (Y4) and ukuleles (Y3) can be taken home by children to practice and consolidate skills. Individual Charanga login details are provided so that children can access music from school online at home.

School has experience of accessing grants from the Lancashire Music Service for a disadvantaged pupil with talent.

Part C: Musical Performances

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.

All our pupils perform in a production at least seven times during their time at primary school; Reception Nativity; Year 2 Nativity; Y4 Spring production, and Y6 Summer production, plus class values assemblies for school and parents in Y1,3 and 5.

All our pupils sing tunefully and with confidence in our weekly Y1/2/3 and Y4/5/6 Singing Assemblies. Children then get to perform for the whole school every other Friday in Star of the Week Assembly. Pupils sing to a piano or to backing tracks, in particular from: 'Out of the Ark' and 'Youtube'.

Once every two years, children perform to the school and parents as part of the Great Wood Singathon. This is rotated each year with a Poetry event.

All pupils have the opportunity to listen to live music in school i.e.

- our pupils perform instruments to the school in assemblies
- Mr Askew plays piano in assemblies and accompanies the children in singing
- Helen Bowden (Lancashire Music Service) has visited the school to showcase ukulele.
- Last year, Year 5 attended a concert by the rock band Massive Wagons at Lancaster University with an anti-bullying theme.
- Last year, Year 3 attended a performance of *Carnival of the Animals* by the Haffner Orchestra at Lancaster Town Hall

K1 and KS2 visit the local theatre each year to experience a Christmas musical production.

Past experiences have included visits to More Music in Morecambe, French folk music (hurdy-gurdy, fiddle) and dancing, visits from musicians/practitioners from More Music to school, visits to Morecambe Bay Academy, a performance from Masai Warriors from Kenya.

Planning more opportunities for children to experience live music in and out of school is a priority for next year.

In the future

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

- More opportunities for the children to enjoy live music in KS1 in and outside of school.
- Close liaison with EYFS and KS1 to review current music provision and ensure quality in those age groups
- Implementation of Charanga's new Creative Units of Work.
- An audit of Singing Assembly songs and refresher training for staff in teaching singing
- Refresh staff about the 'Listening Sequence' of music with breadth and scope that spans across the school (informed by the Model Music Curriculum)