

Music development plan summary: Newton Leys Primary School



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	August 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Kaylea Dall
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Milton Keynes
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.

In Nursery and Reception, our children are taught music through a variety of experiences including learning a new nursery rhyme each week, the use of different instruments through play and continuous provision, listening to music and responding to what they have heard, expressing thoughts and feelings. In Reception, they build upon skills taught in Nursery, focussing on listening attentively, move to and talk about music and explore and engage in music making and dance.

In Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, our children are taught music through the use of the SingUp scheme. This follows the model music curriculum and builds upon children's prior knowledge and skills, developing clear progression through the school. Music is taught weekly and is taught for between 45 minutes and an hour each week. Children are taught to develop their knowledge and skills in singing, playing an instrument and using technology to improvise, compose and perform music. They are

taught to develop an appreciation and understanding of the formal, symbolic, social and personal aspects of music.

We use the local Music Hub to support with CPD and for enrichment opportunities such as workshops or live performances.

Every week, the children across the school learn about a musician or composer and one of their songs through our 'music of the week' in which they look to develop an understanding and knowledge of the musician and style of music.

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.

We offer peripatetic music lessons through a partnership with a local music company – Rhythm Room. Through this company, children are given 1:1 sessions on clarinet, piano or drums. The children are given the opportunity to perform to an audience throughout the year including their peers and parents/carers. This is a paid for service and subsidies are offered to children entitled to Pupil Premium Funding.

We also offer ensemble tuition through Rocksteady. This is a weekly session for children to attend, similar to the peripatetic lessons, in which they learn to play in a band with other children and this is lead by a musician who is referred to as the 'band leader'. They also have the opportunity to perform to their peers and parents/carers in the style of a concert once a term. Through this, the children have an opportunity to achieve a music qualification acknowledged by Trinity College London. This is a paid for service and subsidies are offered to children entitled to Pupil Premium Funding.

We have a choir that will be attending the Young Voices concert in the O2 next year and in preparation for this, they will be a practising choir, once a week. Following the Young Voices concert, this will revert to a school choir, still practising once a week however, with a different group of children to offer more children to opportunity to sing and perform as part of a choir.

Children are able to individually practise and rehearse once a week at lunchtime. They bring their own instruments in and are supervised so that they can develop their skills and take ownership of their progression.

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.

We aim to develop a culture where music is respected, enjoyed and valued at Newton Leys and aim to give the children a variety of experiences across the year. Some of the opportunities planned for this academic year include watching or performing in:

- Weekly singing assemblies for KS1 and KS2
- Reception Christmas performance
- KS1 Christmas performance
- Year 6 leavers production performance
- Music workshops held by the local music hub (Previously Year 5 and 6 have taken part in an Arabic Heritage workshop and a Year 4 African drumming workshop)
- Music Roadshow workshop performances from the local music hub
- Watching a visiting pantomime at Christmas
- Attending KS1 and KS2 music festivals (selected year groups)
- Celebrating World Music day with a whole school singing performance/lessons
- The Young Voices choir performing at the O2*
- The choir performing at the local retirement homes and in the school Summer Fair
- Peripatetic music performances to the school and the parents/carers**
- Rocksteady ensemble music performances to the school and the parents/carers**

**This is a chargeable event for the children*

*** These are chargeable for the children to take part in the sessions however, the performances to the school and parents/carers are free.*

In the future

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

Our aims for development in the next academic year are:

- To develop staff subject knowledge in teaching music.
- To widen the variety of instruments taught to the children in curriculum time and through peripatetic offering
- To develop greater links with the local secondary school for children that show a talent for music
- To develop opportunities to watch live performances outside of school (including at the local secondary school).

