

Music development plan summary: Gilmorton Chandler Primary School

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Philippa Tomkins
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	NA - as above
Name of local music hub	Leicestershire Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	CUSP Music Makers / Wendy Boswell

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.

Our school follows a comprehensive and carefully designed music curriculum to develop pupils' creativity, skills, and cultural understanding. Music is taught weekly, with time allocated as follows:

Key Stage 1 & 2: 1 hour per week

CUSP Music Curriculum

We use the CUSP Music Curriculum, a structured and evidence-led programme designed to ensure all pupils develop strong musical knowledge, competency and confidence. The curriculum builds cumulatively so pupils revisit and embed key musical concepts, supporting sustained progression in their learning.

Key principles of CUSP Music include:

Focused musical development: lessons in singing, listening and appraising, composing and improvising, and instrumental performance.

Cultural breadth: study of significant musicians and musical works from a wide range of cultures and traditions, helping pupils connect music to the wider world.

Structured teaching: clear lesson sequences, knowledge notes, vocabulary instruction, and explainer videos to support both teachers and pupils.

Practical skill development: whole-class ensemble teaching, including glockenspiels and keyboards, with opportunities for pupils to perform and compose.

CUSP Music supports non-specialist teachers by providing detailed lesson planning, teaching resources, and guidance to ensure excellence in music education. Teachers are encouraged to subscribe to Sing Up, which provides backing tracks, sheet music, and audio clips to enhance delivery.

Musical Opportunities

Pupils engage in a wide range of musical activities during lessons, including ensemble work, composition, improvisation and performance. From Key Stage 1 onwards, pupils are taught to read music and are exposed to a wide variety of musical styles. By the end of Key Stage 2, pupils will have developed skills in playing tuned and untuned instruments, including glockenspiels and keyboards, and will perform their own compositions.

Partnerships and Qualifications

Our school works closely with the local music hub and other music education organisations, offering specialist workshops, instrumental tuition, and performance opportunities. Pupils may also pursue external qualifications, such as ABRSM and Rockschoo! exams.

Access and Inclusion

We ensure all pupils have access to high-quality music education, including those with disabilities and SEND. Adaptations include adaptive teaching, accessible instruments, visual prompts, task breakdowns and technological support where required.

Published Curriculum

Further details of the music curriculum, including term-by-term plans and teaching resources, are available on our school website:

<https://gilmorton-chandler-church-of-england-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/curriculum/>

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.

Our school offers a rich and varied programme of music tuition and extracurricular opportunities to complement the core CUSP Music curriculum. These co-curricular opportunities allow pupils to explore music beyond lesson time, develop technical skills, broaden their musical experiences and gain confidence as performers and creators.

Music Tuition

We provide a wide range of opportunities for tuition outside of lesson time, including:

- **One-to-One Tuition** — personalised lessons for pupils to develop their skills on their chosen instrument or voice.
- **Small-Group Tuition** — sessions for pupils learning the same instrument, enabling ensemble playing and peer support.
- **Large-Group Tuition** — workshops, masterclasses, and ensemble sessions for specific instruments or styles.

Instruments and tuition available include keyboard, guitar, recorder and Indian Tablah drums and voice. Tuition is available to pupils from Year 3 upwards, with some opportunities available to younger pupils (recorder).

Tuition is provided by specialist music teachers, both in school and in partnership with our local music hub. Fees are charged for tuition with the exception of Indian Tablah Drums (funded by FOGS), but the school offers **remissions or subsidies** for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium or in particular financial circumstances. This ensures all pupils have the opportunity to access high-quality tuition regardless of ability to pay.

Ensembles and Music-Making Opportunities

Pupils can join a wide range of ensembles and groups outside of lesson time, including:

- **Choirs and Vocal Ensembles** — open to all pupils from Year 3 upwards, including choirs that attend large performances such as Young Voices and Singtastic.

These groups meet regularly and perform in termly concerts, assemblies, community events, and competitions. Pupils can join at any point during the year. Membership is free, with no charges for participation, although some trips or events may have associated costs, which are subsidised where necessary.

Extra-Curricular Provision

We offer additional music opportunities outside of the school day to broaden pupils' experiences, such as:

- **After-School Clubs** — open to all pupils, covering a variety of musical activities.

Facilities for Practice and Rehearsal

The school provides dedicated spaces for individual and group music practice, including:

- Practice rooms equipped with keyboards and percussion.
- Ensemble rehearsal rooms for choirs, bands and small groups.
- Access to the school hall and performance spaces for larger rehearsals and concerts.

Partnerships

We work closely with our **local music hub** and other music education organisations to enhance our co-curricular offer. This partnership provides:

- Access to specialist tuition and visiting practitioners.
- Opportunities to attend workshops, concerts, and music festivals.
- Access to instrument loan schemes and resources.

These partnerships enable pupils to experience a wider range of musical genres, styles, and cultures, in line with the ethos of our CUSP Music curriculum.

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.

Our school offers a broad and varied programme of musical experiences that enrich pupils' learning, inspire creativity and develop confidence. These experiences take place both within the school and beyond, providing pupils with opportunities to perform, to listen to live music, and to engage with music as part of a wider cultural experience.

Planned Musical Experiences for the Academic Year

We structure musical experiences so that every pupil has regular and varied opportunities to take part, either as performers or as members of the audience. These include:

- **Weekly Singing in Assemblies** — all pupils participate, with singing chosen to reflect the curriculum, seasonal themes, cultural celebration and school events. Assemblies take place for all year groups and are a core part of our musical life.
- **School Concerts and Shows** — throughout the year, pupils of all year groups are invited to participate. Performances include:
 - **Annual School Show** — a large-scale production involving pupils in acting, singing, and instrumental performance. Pupils from across year groups are selected through auditions or ensemble membership, while the wider school community participates as audience members.
 - **Informal Recitals and Concerts** — providing opportunities for pupils of all abilities to perform in a relaxed setting - showcasing their musical talents.
- **Trips to Professional Concerts** — These trips are designed to inspire pupils and broaden their cultural understanding. Trips are offered to specific year groups or ensembles and are supported by partnerships with local music hubs and professional organisations.
- **Workshops and Masterclasses** — guest musicians and composers work with pupils in both small-group and whole-school settings.

How Pupils Get Involved

- Participation in performances is open to pupils through audition, membership of ensembles, or invitations from music teachers.
- Audience opportunities are provided to all year groups, with performances scheduled to accommodate the whole school community.
- Pupils are encouraged to take part regardless of prior musical experience, with support provided to develop skills.

Charging and Subsidies

- Many musical experiences, such as assemblies and whole-school concerts, are provided free of charge to pupils and their families.

- For trips, workshops, and specialist performances, a charge may be made to cover costs. These are subsidised wherever possible.
- Pupils eligible for pupil premium support receive additional subsidies or full remission for all trips and events to ensure equal access.

Partnerships

Our school works with a range of partners to support musical experiences.

Impact of Musical Experiences

Through this programme, pupils:

- Build confidence and performance skills.

In the future

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

Our school is committed to continually developing and enhancing our music provision to ensure all pupils have access to high-quality musical opportunities. Over the coming years, we plan to:

- **Expand Co-Curricular Music Opportunities**
 - Introduce additional ensembles and groups to cater for a wider range of interests and abilities, including expanding opportunities for jazz, world music, and contemporary genres.
 - Increase one-to-one and small-group tuition in a broader range of instruments, ensuring pupils have access to diverse musical pathways.
- **Enhance Musical Experiences**
 - Develop more partnerships with professional musicians, orchestras, and music organisations to enrich pupils' experiences.
 - Increase opportunities for pupils to attend high-quality live music performances locally and nationally.

- Introduce an annual music festival or showcase event to celebrate the musical achievements of all pupils and ensembles.

- **Improve Facilities and Resources**

- Invest in dedicated rehearsal spaces and upgraded practice rooms equipped with modern instruments and technology.
- Expand access to music technology resources such as recording equipment, composition software, and digital instruments.

- **Increase Inclusion and Access**

- Further subsidise music tuition, trips, and events to ensure all pupils, regardless of financial circumstance, can participate fully.
- Develop targeted outreach projects for underrepresented groups in music, in partnership with local music hubs and community organisations.

- **Strengthen Curriculum and Progression Pathways**

- Embed more cross-curricular projects linking music with other subjects such as history, science, and languages.
- Develop clear progression routes so pupils can see how to grow their skills from beginner level through to advanced performance, composition, and leadership opportunities.

- **Celebrate Musical Achievement**

- Introduce new awards and recognition for pupils who demonstrate exceptional commitment, progress, and creativity in music.
- Publish a yearly music report showcasing performances, achievements, and opportunities to inspire future cohorts.

These plans are guided by our vision of music as an integral part of school life — a vibrant and evolving programme that inspires creativity, builds confidence, and nurtures a lifelong love of music.