

Music Development Plan Summary

Forest Hills Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	8 th September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Sarah Powell
Name of local music hub	Staffordshire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Entrust Music Service Staffordshire

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

At Forest Hills Primary School, we place great value on our music curriculum to engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.

In the EYFS classrooms, we have a dedicated music area, where children explore sound, rhythm and pitch with a range of instruments. Such exploration is scaffolded through adult interactions. The instruments are also available throughout the continuous provision sessions, so that children can access these independently and explore their use and the sounds made. In addition to this, in Early Years, the singing of songs, nursery rhymes and tunes is common place. Children join in singing familiar songs, which are used throughout the day, including routines and circle times.

In Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, our music curriculum offer is through the Primary Knowledge Curriculum. PKC has been developed as a high-quality music education programme, which has been written by expert within the teaching of music.

At Key Stage 1, our curriculum aims to engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.

Across Key Stage 2, our music curriculum includes understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structure. Through these lessons, children have opportunities to play, perform, improvise and compose music, and well as listening to and evaluating the work of musicians and develop an appreciation of the history of music.

As an inclusive school, adaptations are made, where appropriate, for children with SEND, or any child who is challenges by the learning within music. Adaptations include the level of support offered to a child, the type of instrument used etc. Music also provides opportunities for those not confident in English and Mathematics, to flourish and excel in a more creative, practical subject. We embrace and celebrate this.

At Forest Hills Primary School, across key stages one and two, we allocate one hour per week to the teaching of music. This equates to 36 hours per year.

Part B: Co-curricular music

At Forest Hills Primary School, we offer one to one tuition. This is specifically targeted at our Looked After Children and disadvantaged children. This takes place once per week and consists of a 30 minute lesson. Tuition beyond the music lesson, has consisted of guitar lessons this year, however a range of instruments are offered, including, flute, drums, saxophone, clarinet, violin. The tuition has been free to parents and carers and funded through the Virtual School and funded through Entrust, for disadvantaged children.

Although we do not have a school choir, due to our school size, when we are invited to perform locally, our classes perform as a choir with the purpose of singing locally at the community events. Throughout the year, there are opportunities for children to sing as a small group or whole class group as we perform for parents. Examples of this are carol singing and the Year 5 and 6 end of year performance.

Within our wider curriculum, songs are also encouraged to support children to retain new learning. For example, in Key Stage 1 the children learned a song that would support them to name the continents.

To support their learning within the music lesson, children are also able to loan their instruments from the Music Service. This allows children the opportunity to practice skills at home and also to celebrate their achievements with parents. As a school, we also signpost events within the community and the local area that promote music and offer musical opportunities.

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Within school, we are fortunate to have spaces to accommodate individuals, small groups and whole classes to perform and practice.

Part C: Musical experiences

At Forest Hills Primary School, we take part in a range of local community events. These include Christmas carols in the town centre and also singing at residential homes and care homes in our locality. During the year, we also have a range of trips and the school pantomime is also an annual event where children see musical performances.

As a Trust, we will also be taking part in a musical event to showcase our musical talents and achievements. This will be an opportunity for small groups and whole class to perform the instrumental pieces learned in lesson time and for those receiving one to one tuition to perform solo or small group pieces of music.

Where there are costs involved for performances and / or show, these are heavily subsidised by school and only a small fee is charged to parents.

In the future

At Forest Hills Primary School, we are continually seeking to improve our offer to children. In future years, we will seek to expand the range of musical instruments on offer and develop the children's musical ability on a range of different instruments, including wind, brass, string and percussion.

In addition, it is hoped that the Trust event becomes an annual showcase of talent. As the children increase their confidence in performance, we also hope to extend this to local events organised by the Music Service and national events, such as Young Voices.