

Music development plan summary: Leyland St James C of E Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	June 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Emma Fairclough
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)	Lancashire Music Services

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.

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 EYFS the main focus is singing and pulse, although there are opportunities to explore instruments within continuous provision throughout the year. In EYFS there is one short music lesson taught each week. In addition, singing takes place throughout the school day, often linked to other learning opportunities, such as the singing of number rhymes. All pupils are taught to listen attentively, move to and talk about music, express their feelings and responses to music and to sing songs and rhymes, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody.

Within our curriculum music in KS1 and KS2, we teach all aspects of National Curriculum music.

Children in KS1 and KS2 have at least one music lesson per week. The lessons are taught using the Charanga English Model Music scheme developed by the Lancashire Music Hub which meets the requirements for the statutory music curriculum.

Across the key stages, music lessons in our school will include the teaching of singing and opportunities for listening/appraising. In KS1, each lesson will also include a focus on rhythm and beat. In addition, music lessons will either have a focus on playing (including formal music notation, especially in KS2) music on the glockenspiels or recorders. As children progress through school, their composition and improvisation skills will be developed with children creating their own simple melodies using a range of notes and rhythms by the end of KS2.

Within our Music curriculum, we learn about different styles and genres of music and explore music from different cultures.

Singing is a strength of the school. Children sing in curriculum music, in worship at school and in church and during special performances.

All pupils in KS1 and KS2 have access to whole-class instrument lessons within their curriculum. Instruments used are glockenspiels, recorders and a variety of untuned percussion. Recorders are taught by class teachers in Y2 and Y4. Recorders and glockenspiels are used within the English Model Music scheme in Y3 – Y6. Glockenspiels are used within the English Model Music Scheme in Y1 – Y6. Y3, Y5 and Y6 also get the opportunity to learn the ukulele for a term, through Lancashire Music Hub's Wider Opportunities scheme (taught by a specialist teacher).

Our Music curriculum is accessible to all learners and high expectations are set to encourage the children at Leyland St James to flourish in their musical creativity.

Cross-curricular music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time.

All our pupils take part in singing practice once a week as part of our whole school worship. This is time to learn new hymns and songs as well as practice familiar, well-loved songs together.

We often use singing where appropriate to help 'sticky' learning in other subjects through, for example, songs which link other topics; for example, songs which help us to learn the names of the oceans and/or continents in geography.

There is a choir led by a member of staff. This group of children meet to sing/practise once a week. Children perform in assemblies, concerts, in church and in the community (for example at Sandy Banks Care Home at Christmas time).

There is also a Musical Theatre club available to all children for one half term throughout the year. As part of this club, children will learn to sing a song from a musical that they also explore through movement and dance.

The Y5 and Y6 children at Leyland St James get the opportunity to be involved in 'Young Voices' each year. These children meet once a week to learn/practise songs ready for a large concert in Manchester involving thousands of children.

There are many opportunities for children at Leyland St James to be involved in productions during their time at our school; Infant Nativity, leavers production (involving Y5 and Y6), class assemblies for school and parents and special celebrations at Church.

We have recently started offering our pupils Brass tuition through use of a peripatetic tutor as part of our link with Lancashire Music Services.

In the future

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

This academic year sees a move to the English Model Music Curriculum on Charanga which has been done to help enhance and encourage the pupils at Leyland St James' in their musicality. The effectiveness of this change will be assessed throughout the year. There has also been a change in the amount of instrument tuition included within the academic year for Key Stage One and Key Stage Two as a result of a Pupil Voice conducted in 2024. This will also need reviewing and evaluating.

We will continue to receive Music tuition from the Lancashire Hub for the next academic year.

There is an intention to start a recorder band within school once the recorder is more effectively rolled out in all Key Stage Two year groups. We endeavour to expand the offer of instrument tuition through use of peripatetic tutors within school.

We will endeavour to provide more opportunities for listening to live music; perhaps inviting high quality musician visitors into school or providing an opportunity for children to visit live music performances. We will increase the opportunities for our children to experience and explore music from different cultures. This will be a priority for Emma Fairclough and Debbie Peacock (link governor).

We continue to need to improve the teaching of composing across the school; composing in KS2 can be taught through music technology. Hopefully the introduction of the English Model Music Curriculum will see positive changes towards the end of the academic year.

An assessment format for Music has been put in place for 2025/2026. This will need reviewed and evaluated at the end of the academic year.