Music development plan summary: World's End Junior School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs F Lucas
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs C Craddock
Name of local music hub	Services for Education (SFE)
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.

Over recent years we have developed our music curriculum to ensure that skills are carefully sequenced, such that pupils steadily become more musical as they move through the school. A specialist music lead has planned and implemented a spiral music curriculum. This has been adapted from Charanga's original music scheme to begin to incorporate some elements of the Model Music Curriculum, and to ensure children experience music from a wider range of traditions and styles. As part of the music curriculum children are taught to: actively listen to and appraise a wide range of music, perform vocally and on instruments, read simple staff notation, and compose and improvise on familiar instruments. Appropriate adaptations are made so that children with SEND can access the school music curriculum.

In previous academic years, Years 3, 5 and 6 music has been taught fortnightly by teachers, from planning prepared by a specialist music lead. In 2026/27, we will be

trialling shorter, weekly music lessons in Years 3, 5 and 6. This should hopefully impact positively on the development of children's musical skills and knowledge as they will be given more frequent opportunities to embed, practise and retrieve what they have learned.

In Year 4, children have weekly music lessons of one hour as they participate in WCIT through our local music hub. These lessons are taught by specialist teachers, and incorporate listening and appraising, singing, instrumental performance, composition and improvisation. At the end of the year, Year 4 children perform as a whole class to the school and parents/carers.

All children across the school learn to perform and compose on the glockenspiel and untuned percussion instruments. In Year 4, children learn either the cornet, clarinet or ukulele. Children have frequent opportunities to perform within class music lessons, in large and small groups, duos or solo. Opportunities for singing are woven throughout the music curriculum, across all year groups. Children are taught to sing properly, using appropriate tone, dynamics and phrasing.

Children are now using their oracy skills throughout curriculum music lessons, enabling them to develop their subject-specific language and vocabulary. This also supports them to have rich discussions about music, explain their own performances and compositions, and to increase their confidence and enjoyment of the subject. Scaffolding, such as word banks, is provided to support them in using subject-specific vocabulary accurately.

Part B: Music tuition, choirs and ensembles

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.

There are an increasing number of opportunities for children to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, across the school. Children from any year group can join our school choir at a cost of £2 per week. This rehearses weekly and gives termly performances at St Boniface Church and in school. In 2025/26 our school choir also joined the Music Service massed primary choirs to perform in Symphony Hall as part of the Birmingham Schools' Proms Concerts.

In Year 5 and 6, children have the opportunity to continue learning brass or woodwind instruments, or the guitar, with specialist instrumental teachers from Services for Education. These lessons are usually held in small groups, and cost £13 per 30-minute lesson with a reduction for pupil premium children. These lessons are supported by instrument loans from Services for Education, to ensure that obtaining an instrument is not a barrier for any child. We also offer drum lessons, with a specialist teacher, at a cost of £13 per 30-minute lesson with a reduction for pupil premium children. Children

continuing with instrumental lessons in Year 5 and 6 may be entered for ABRSM Music Medal awards, if their teacher feels they have reached an appropriate level.

For children learning an instrument in school, we offer a school ensemble in partnership with Services for Education. This is conducted by a specialist teacher from SFE and is offered free of charge. It rehearses one lunchtime each week.

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 offer a range of musical experiences and opportunities beyond lessons and ensembles. The whole school participates in fortnightly singing assemblies, to teach specific skills in singing and to prepare for performances at St Boniface Church at Christmas and Easter.

Each year group has the opportunity to give an annual performance to the wider school community, including parents and carers. Year 3 present a musical production each Christmas as a whole year group. Year 4 give whole class performances on their WCIT instruments (with opportunities for solo and small group performance) at the end of the Summer Term. In Year 5, each class prepares and performs a musical play in the Spring Term. Our Year 6 pupils come together as a whole year group to perform an end of year musical production, with opportunities for small group and solo singing where appropriate.

Children who are taking instrumental lessons in Year 5 and 6 have additional opportunities to perform, either solo or in small groups, at the end of the Summer Term. Our ensemble give termly performances, including at prestigious venues around the city such as the Birmingham Conservatoire and Symphony Hall. Our school choir also give termly performances at St Boniface Church, including participating in a local music festival, Quinsound.

Children have a wide range of opportunities to listen to different styles of music outside of curriculum music lessons. Many teachers play music as the children come in to school in the morning, or at other transition times. When children come in to assembly, high-quality recorded performances are chosen to reflect the time of year, season or theme of the assembly.

In 2025/26, we have introduced a Musician of the Month, to broaden children's awareness of different musicians and genres. These musicians are from a diverse range of backgrounds and cultures, representing the school community and offering role models to our children. As we move into 2026/27, this will be adapted and personalised

to our context at World's End Junior School, to ensure the musicians selected are engaging and relevant to our community.

In 2025/26 Year 5 children also experienced an opera workshop as part of the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire outreach programme. We also began to implement Singing Playgrounds, a scheme designed by Ex Cathedra to encourage child-led singing games at break and lunchtimes.

In the future

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

We are continuously looking to improve our provision for curriculum music, and co-curricular activities and opportunities.

In the 2026/27 academic year we are particularly looking at further ways to incorporate musical activities into wider school life, such as implementing and embedding the Singing Playgrounds scheme, and at how this could impact on pupils' behaviour and oracy skills. This will ensure that all children have opportunities to engage with and access music-making beyond the classroom.

We will continue to work with the local music hub, and other local partners, to increase access to high-quality performances with the aim of all children experiencing a live performance during their time at the school.

We are also looking at developing effective ways to assess children's learning and understanding within curriculum music lessons.

As the new National Curriculum plans, based on the 2025 Curriculum and Assessment Review, are revealed, we will be reviewing how our existing Music curriculum fits with the new expectations, and making adjustments to this as required to further improve Music lessons for all our children.