

Music development plan summary for Ashby Willesley Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024/2025
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2026
Name of the school music lead	Sarah Hender
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Sarah Hender
Name of local music hub	Leicestershire School Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s)	N/A

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 performances – and what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and all stakeholders what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

Curriculum Music

In Class
Every child enjoys a dedicated hour of music each week as part of their classroom learning. This regular time allows pupils to develop musical skills and express their creativity in a supportive and inspiring environment.

Key Stage Music and Collective Worship
Music is a joyful part of our weekly collective worship. Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 each have their own singing and active listening sessions; Key Stage 1 on Wednesdays and Key Stage 2 on Thursdays, designed to deepen their musical understanding and complement classroom learning. In addition, both Key Stages come together to rehearse and celebrate through music in preparation for special festivals such as Harvest and Christmas. These shared musical experiences help build a strong sense of community and celebration within our school.

Leicestershire School Music Service (LSMS) Scheme
From EYFS to Year 6, children follow the engaging and high-quality units of the

Leicestershire School Music Service Primary Music Scheme. This scheme provides rich, progressive musical learning experiences in class lessons across the school. (Year 4 follows a bespoke programme due to Whole Class Instrumental Teaching.)

EYFS **and** **Key** **Stage** **1**

Our youngest musicians enjoy a wide range of musical activities, including active listening, singing, body percussion, and instrument playing using both percussion and chime bars. They also explore improvisation and composition through simple graphic notation. Key musical concepts such as Pulse, Voice, Rhythm, Pitch, and Music Technology are introduced in a fun and accessible way. EYFS pupils also take part in Kimbles music and movement sessions during the Autumn Term, supporting key goals within the EYFS Expressive Arts and Design curriculum.

Key **Stage** **2**

In KS2, music lessons are rich with opportunities to sing, play a variety of instruments—including tuned and untuned percussion, glockenspiels, and keyboards—and explore improvisation and composition using both graphic and standard notation. Pupils continue to build their understanding of musical concepts such as Pulse, Voice, Rhythm, Pitch, and Music Technology. A particular highlight is Year 4's Whole Class Instrumental Teaching, where every child learns to play either the clarinet or saxophone, delivered weekly by expert tutors from the Leicestershire School Music Service. Year 3, 5, and 6 continue to follow the LSMS Primary Music Scheme, ensuring a broad and inspiring musical education for all.

Co-curricular Music

Peripatetic **Music** **Lessons**

At our school, approximately 20% of pupils in Years 2 to 6 take part in a wide variety of high-quality peripatetic music lessons within school. These lessons take place in our dedicated music room, providing a calm and creative space for both 1:1 and small group tuition. Many pupils choose to work towards graded music exams, and we're proud to support their progress and achievements. Currently, pupils are learning instruments such as guitar, piano, clarinet, saxophone, and flute. We believe that every child should have the chance to learn an instrument, so pupils eligible for Pupil Premium funding are actively encouraged to take up lessons—fully funded by the school. This helps ensure that cost is never a barrier to musical opportunity.

Supporting **Pupils** **with** **Lessons** **Outside** **School**

We love celebrating musical success, wherever it happens. Pupils who receive music tuition outside of school are encouraged to share their learning by performing in assemblies or school concerts, bringing their instruments into class when appropriate, and celebrating their graded exam achievements with pride. Under staff supervision, they are also welcome

to rehearse in our Music Room—nurturing both independence and confidence. We canvassed parents recently and were pleased to hear that around 40 – 50 pupils access music lessons outside of school.

Key Stage 1 – After School Music Club

Pupils in Years 1 and 2 are invited to join our after-school music club, run by an experienced external music teacher. This fun and engaging club gives children the chance to explore music beyond the classroom—through singing, rhythm games, simple instruments, and creative activities that beautifully complement our curriculum. Many pupils take up this opportunity throughout the year and always come away smiling!

Lower Key Stage 2 Choir – Massed Singing at De Montfort Hall

Our Year 3 and 4 pupils take part in an exciting, massed singing event each year, hosted by the Leicestershire School Music Service. With expert vocal coaching provided by LSMS and our staff, children learn a wide range of songs and develop their performance skills. The experience culminates in a spectacular concert at the iconic De Montfort Hall in Leicester—an unforgettable experience that brings joy, confidence, and a real sense of accomplishment.

Upper Key Stage 2 – Young Voices

Each year, many of our Year 5 and 6 pupils form a specialist choir, working towards the nationally renowned **Young Voices** project. They rehearse weekly during lunchtime throughout the Autumn Term, learning a vibrant mix of contemporary, pop, and world music. The highlight of the project is the chance to perform alongside thousands of other children in a large-scale concert experience. It's a true celebration of music and teamwork, and one of the most exciting events on our school calendar!

Musical Performances/Events

IN SCHOOL

- Harvest (EYFS/KS1 and KS2) and Christmas (KS2) Services in Church.
- EYFS/Y1/Y2 Christmas Nativity performances in school.
- Y4 end of year clarinet and saxophone recital – showcasing learning over the year.
- Class assemblies – each class perform to parents once per year.
- Y6 production.
- Y6 leavers' service.
- Music listening within classrooms – to accompany drama, to support other curriculum areas such as history and PSHE. Music as background for art and writing. Music for dance in PE.
- Singing for collective worship time.
- Watching performances, including a pantomime at Christmas.
- Opportunities to sing in the local community – local care homes.

IN THE FUTURE

- > Continue to liaise with Local Music Hub – how could they help? Sign post to extra-curricular clubs and groups.
- > Continue with CPD to keep up to date with the latest ideas.
- > Support for teachers and provide training to improve curriculum delivery and pupil experience.
- > Further liaise with and support our MAT schools – sharing ideas and offering support.
- > Invite parents and local community to share their musical skills – either as support in lessons or in a performance.
- > Explore further opportunities for musical performance and curriculum enrichment.
- > Further develop Music technology for use in lessons.
- > Share, explain and ensure all stakeholders know our clear outcomes.

Further information

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Your local [music hub](#) should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information. <https://leicestershiremusichub.org/>

Sarah Hender
Ashby Willesley
July 2025