

Music Development Plan Summary: Highfield Hall Primary School

At Highfield Hall Primary School, we believe that music is a powerful form of expression that enables children to communicate ideas, emotions and experiences in creative and meaningful ways. We are committed to providing a rich, inclusive and engaging music education that inspires a lifelong love of music while developing confidence, creativity and musical understanding.

Our music curriculum, delivered through the Sing Up! Music programme, provides a carefully sequenced progression of knowledge, skills and vocabulary from Reception to Year 6. Through high-quality lessons, every child has the opportunity to listen and respond to a wide range of musical styles and traditions, sing with confidence, play tuned and untuned instruments, compose and improvise, read and write simple musical notation, and perform both individually and as part of an ensemble. Children develop the interrelated dimensions of music, enabling them to become thoughtful, expressive and independent musicians.

Music at Highfield Hall provides enjoyable and inclusive learning experiences in which all children can achieve and succeed. The Sing Up! curriculum supports teachers with high-quality planning, teaching and assessment, ensuring consistency while allowing opportunities to respond to the interests and needs of our pupils. Through classroom music, singing, performance opportunities and wider musical experiences, children develop not only musical skills but also resilience, teamwork, communication and self-confidence.

This document outlines how Highfield Hall Primary School delivers a high-quality music education across the curriculum, co-curricular activities and wider musical opportunities. Our provision is informed by the National Curriculum for Music (2014), the Model Music Curriculum (2021) and The Power of Music to Change Lives: The National Plan for Music Education (2022), ensuring that every child receives a broad, balanced and ambitious music education.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 – 2027
Date this summary was published	01.09.2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	01.09.2027
Name of the school music lead	Charlie Riley
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mike Bywaters
Name of local music hub	CNEDMC Chesterfield & North East Derbyshire Music Centre

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.

From September 2026, we will be using Sing Up! as the foundation of our curriculum. Sing Up! provides a carefully sequenced, progressive scheme of work that enables pupils to develop their musical knowledge, understanding and skills year on year. The curriculum is designed to build on prior learning, ensuring clear progression in performing, listening, composing and evaluating music, while continually revisiting the interrelated dimensions of music.

The scheme provides teachers with high-quality planning, engaging resources and ongoing professional development, helping to build staff confidence and expertise in delivering music lessons. Through a wide range of musical styles, cultures and traditions, pupils develop their understanding of music as a diverse and inclusive art form while fostering creativity, confidence and enjoyment.

Children receive weekly music lessons using the Sing Up! curriculum, during which they have access to a range of instruments, including voice, percussion and glockenspiels. Lessons include opportunities to listen and respond to music, sing, play instruments, compose, improvise and perform. Each lesson is carefully structured with opportunities to revisit prior learning, introduce and practise new skills, and reflect on or perform their work. Units are progressive and include clear assessment opportunities to support teachers in monitoring pupils' musical development and informing future learning.

All pupils have the opportunity to take part in whole-class instrumental units. Year 3 learn to play the ukulele as part of the Wider Opportunities programme delivered by the Derbyshire Music Hub and children and may choose to continue learning through Further Opportunities beyond their curriculum lessons. Year 2 and Year 5 learn to play the handbells.

Typically, all disabled pupils and pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) access music lessons alongside their peers. Lessons are designed to be inclusive and can be adapted to meet a range of needs or provide additional challenge where appropriate. Teachers use strategies such as alternative instruments, visual supports, ear defenders, simplified or extended tasks and other adaptive approaches to ensure that every child can participate successfully and make progress.

Chesterfield & North East Derbyshire Music Centre is a key partner organisation that supports the development of music across the school.

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.

Outside of what is taught in lesson time, one-to-one, small-group and large-group instrumental tuition is available on request by parents. KS2 currently have access to guitar, piano and Ukulele lessons. If financial hardship would be a barrier, subsidies are available to ensure fair access.

Our KS2 school choir rehearses every week in preparation for live performances throughout the year.

Further singing takes place through various events, such as nativity plays, whole school singing in assemblies.

We signpost children to choirs and music activities out of school and get regular updates from the CNEDMC partnership to support co-curricular music.

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.

Musical experiences are planned for the academic year, including EYFS and KS1 nativities, Christmas carol concert, guitar showcase, ukulele/handbell performances and Summerfest.

Children have the opportunity to join the school choir who perform throughout the year to support events in school and for the community.

We welcome parents and staff to perform to pupils and organise regular opportunities for all children to experience a form of live music.

In the future

	Current Provision	Planned Development (25-27)
Curriculum Teaching	We have moved from KAPOW to Sing Up!	Half termly staff check ins to gather feedback on new curriculum programme. Conduct/arrange staff training focusing on developing staff confidence with using Sing Up! and singing. Work with staff 1:1 to assess progression snapshots using videos from SEESAW. Look into launching - 'Musician of the Month'. Develop and support EYFS music provision and singing opportunities.
Whole Class Instrumental Teaching	We take part in the 'Wider Opportunities' programme. Year 3 currently have Ukulele. Handbells unit taught in Y2 and Y5.	Research Sing up! instrumental programmes, especially for Djembe drumming and recorders. Organise staff training from Derbyshire Music Hub for handbells.
Access to lessons across instruments and voice	Guitar and piano lessons offered to KS2 pupils. Ukulele lessons offered to Y4/5/6.	Organise drum lessons in partnership with Derbyshire Music Hub. Gather interest regarding other instrumental tuition that children are interested in.
School singing	Weekly singing as a school during celebration assembly. Children can choose to be a part of the KS2 school choir. Information about singing opportunities outside school regularly sent out to parents.	Promote and encourage daily singing. Speak to HT about arranging a dedicated time for this. Begin KS1 choir. Additional singing/music assembly once a week.
School instrumental ensemble	-	Begin a lunchtime/afterschool handbell, Djembe and recorder club.
Termly Performances	Performances are happening in class	Organise sharing SeeSaw recordings of performances between classes.

	throughout each Sing Up! unit. Performances are recorded on SeeSaw and are shared with parents.	Performance of the term to be played as a video in assembly. Organise live performances from pupils to perform in assemblies. Arrange and create timetable for classes to perform to each other throughout the year.
Opportunities to hear live music being performed	-	Gather information from staff, governors and parents regarding who can play an instrument and who would volunteer to play for the children. Contact local secondary schools and arrange for pupils to come in and perform to children. Contact Music Hub/ Winding Wheel about opportunities for professional musicians to come and play for the children. Arrange musician to deliver EYFS workshop day.
School engagement with Music Hub - CPD, programmes etc.	Regular contact with the Hub via Helen Temple.	Arrange CPD training for all staff on percussion activities/ technology/ singing. Look into EYFS training for developing music. ChR to attend Derbyshire Music Hub training.
Subject leadership	Curriculum maps and knowledge overviews are in place. School accesses regular training opportunities from the Music Hub and Music Mark.	Send out half termly 'MUSIC updates' to staff. Promote and direct staff to training on Sing Up! website/ Derbyshire Music Hub. Develop bank of useful links/ free resources etc. Regularly update school website to reflect our musical offering and commitment to high quality music education for all. Organise Handbell training for staff in Y2 and Y5. Organise whole staff CPD – Sing Up!, singing and percussion ideas.