

Music development plan summary: Grace Mary Primary School

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Andrew Hayward
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Sandwell Music Education Hub
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.

At Grace Mary Primary school, children have access to: hourly music lessons throughout the year; multiple production performances; and weekly singing assemblies. The music curriculum has been written to teach new skills and knowledge and to increase musicality by building on previous learning. New concepts are taught in small manageable steps and time is given to allow children to practice within the lesson, guided by staff and to then perform to their peers at the end of each lesson.

The curriculum has been informed by the model music curriculum using the repertoire and structure to increase the development of musicianship. Each lesson follows a structure of Listening and describing music, singing, rhythm work, instrumentation and performance. From Year 1 through to year 6, pupils have the opportunity to sing and play during lesson time. In Key Stage 1, children build the foundation of musicianship with pulse, rhythm and pitch using stick notation, solfa, tuned and untuned percussion. These skills are then re-enforced with WCIT using recorders for reading standard music notation, drum kit following standard drum notation and djembe using graphic scores. Opportunities for composing are given during each unit and pupils are encouraged to write these using standard and non-standard notation. In key stage 2, pupils listen to a wide variety of music styles, and have WCIT on drum kit and ukulele. In LKS2, pupils learn to read, play and compose drum patterns in a variety of musical styles. They initially learn some rudiments and engage in rhythm work, expanding this to the voices of the drum kit to create stylistic patterns. This work is supplemented with classical music period units and world music units using tuned and untuned percussion. In UKS2, pupils learn to play the ukulele. Each unit develops the musicianship of the pupils and units build on each other. Pupils learn to read chord boxes and tablature, play to a variety of different genres and compose using chord progressions and scales. Pupils at Grace Mary also have the opportunity to compose their own themed soundscape music for a percussion ensemble, writing in standard and graphic notation. Children in our focus provision have the opportunity to engage with music weekly, through singing and games linked to their topic work where they listen to a wide variety of music and experience composition through investigation of sounds.

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.

Children at Grace Mary take part in weekly singing assemblies where they use skills taught in lessons to engage in singing for fun. They sing along to backing tracks and to live instrumentation. Children also have the opportunity to have 1:1 and small group tuition throughout the school year with a music specialist. Children are also given information to engage with playing and learning an instrument outside of school. The 1:1 and small group tuition is for ukulele, drum kit and a percussion ensemble. We also have a choir at Grace Mary where students can have the opportunity to sing for fun and have performance opportunities outside of school.

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.

Pupils at Grace Mary take part in weekly singing assemblies. They also take part in termly productions. Children are involved in: A Whole school Christmas concert, an EYFS Nativity and a Year 6 End of year production. Pupils are also taking part in a whole school arts installation where they will record music to be performed for a whole school project. Grace Mary also provides opportunities for pupils to see an annual pantomime in school. They also engage with selected online live lessons from CBSO and the BSO aimed at relevant Key Stages. Grace Mary also provides children with opportunities to see live music from the CBSO at the Symphony Hall in Birmingham and take part in the local area massed choir and ensemble events, performing to a live audience.

In the future

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

To improve the music provision at Grace Mary we are looking at creating a regular school choir with planned performance opportunities. We are looking to create a school ensemble focused on the instruments taught during WCIT lessons. We would also like to provide further opportunities to play with massed ensembles and choirs with the local music service and give performance opportunities during assembly time to celebrate our musicians.

Further information (optional)