



Marcham C of E Primary School

Music Development Plan

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/2026
Date this summary was published	Sept 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	Sept 2026
Name of the school music lead	Lindsay Priddle
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	As above
Name of local music hub	Oxfordshire Music Service

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.

“Music is the literature of the heart. It commences where speech ends.” Alphonse de Lamartine

At Marcham CE Primary school, we acknowledge the power of Music as universal language, which the National Curriculum describes as embodying “one of the highest forms of creativity”. We aim to develop a love of Music for our pupils by providing a firm foundation for their understanding through which we encourage curiosity and exploration.

We follow the guidance laid down in the National Curriculum but are conscious of its ability to transcend different cultures, generations and abilities and the role it can play in an individual's personal development.

We have an overall structure for the teaching of Music which is based on the **Charanga Music** scheme of work. It offers a coherent and comprehensive programme which ensures students sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. The scheme accommodates both specialist and non-specialist teachers by offering detailed lesson plans, assessment

tools, clear progression pathways, and engaging whiteboard resources aligning seamlessly with the national curriculum requirements.

It is used from Year 1 - 6 to ensure a wide exposure to different genres of music, with lots of practical opportunities of exploration and composition so that the pupils develop as musicians and singers. This is embedded in the classroom activities and is supplemented by our weekly singing assemblies, various concerts and performances and the learning of instruments. Every class has a timetabled session of music every week.

All pupils in Year 3 learn to play a string instrument through the Play On Scheme from the Oxfordshire Music Service and we are proud to have been the first school in Oxfordshire to have introduced the Double Bass to such young pupils.

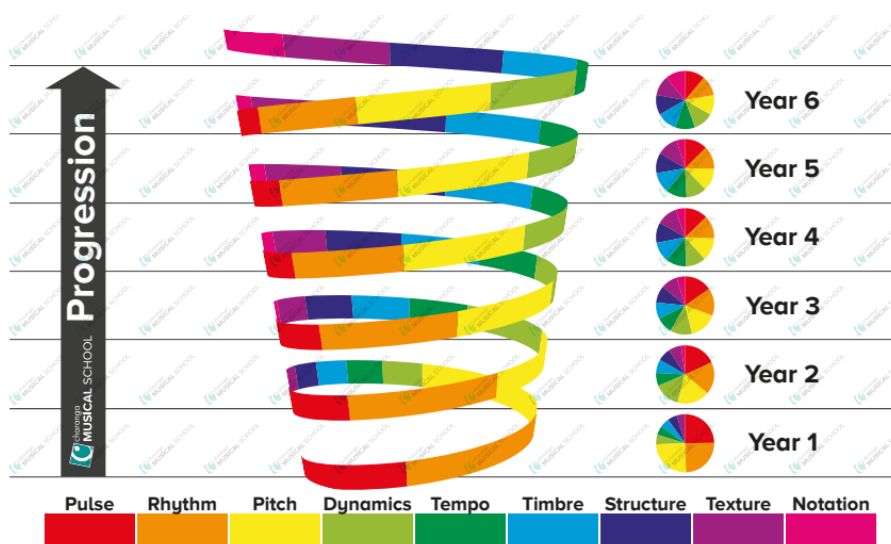
Through our Music lessons and music-making sessions, we want our children to develop:

- a love of Music and an understanding of its power to communicate;
- the confidence to sing and play instruments;
- an understanding of history, culture and history, both in relation to themselves as well as musical traditions from across the world;
- the ability to dissect music and comprehend its parts as well as an appreciation of it as a whole piece of work;
- opportunities to rehearse and improve their own performances;
- opportunities to develop a sense of achievement, creativity, concentration, self-confidence, and interaction with and an awareness of others;
- the ability to respond to what they hear on both an intellectual and emotional level.

In so doing, the children have access to this “universal language” through engagement and enjoyment of music in all its forms.

Aligned with the curriculum and guided by Ofsted recommendations, the Charanga Scheme facilitates a practical, exploratory, and child-centric approach to musical learning. Moving away from traditional learning objectives, it places emphasis on interrelated dimensions of music, fostering the development of musical skills through listening, appraising, varied musical activities, and performing.

Charanga Music Scheme reinforces the interrelated dimensions of music. With each new song children are encouraged to start again with the foundations of pulse, then rhythm, then pitch adding new dimensions as you progress through the scheme. This represents an ever-increasing spiral of musical learning



Our curriculum is ambitious for all pupils, including those with SEND. The scheme sets high expectations of what SEND pupils can achieve and offers a selection of accessible lessons and units specifically written for pupils with SEND. These units can be taught, if required, as standalone units or mixed and matched with the other content units on the platform. Adaptions and individual needs are considered when following units to ensure the success of pupils in all subjects.

In summary, our Music curriculum is designed to provide a comprehensive music education that nurtures the music talents and interests of all our pupils.

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.

At our school, we provide a wide range of opportunities for our pupils to engage with music beyond the core curriculum. We believe that music is a vital aspect of a well-rounded education and we are committed to fostering a love for music in all our students. Our co-curricular music activities are designed to complement and enhance the core curriculum, providing pupils with a comprehensive musical education.

Whole School Singing Assemblies:

Whole school singing assemblies are a collective experience of singing together which builds a sense of community and shared joy in music making. Songs and hymns are chosen to fully encompass our values and key songs have been chosen to represent each value every term. Children support the warm up sessions, leading singing in groups and during rounds.

Instrumental Learning Opportunities:

One such opportunity is the variety of music lessons taught by peripatetic music teachers. Currently there is provision for Guitar, Violin, Cello and Double Bass. Some of these children have continued with the String instrument which they were taught in Year 3 through the Play On scheme. These lessons cover a variety of musical styles and techniques, allowing students to explore different facets of music and develop their talents.

After School Choir Club:

Our school choir is another avenue through which pupils can further their musical abilities. The choir is open to Years 4, 5 and 6 and 30 pupils have regularly attended. The choir offers students a chance to develop their vocal skills and perform at various events throughout the year, both within the school and in the broader community. For example, the Church Carol Service and our own school fetes. In March 2024, our choir took part in Voice in a Million at Wembley Arena, this opportunity gave pupils the chance to experience the thrill of performing in a large venue and being part of a larger musical community. It not only enhanced their musical skills but also build confidence and

teamwork. Participation in OCC Summer Sing May 2025 enabled the choir to sing in a larger group.

Performances:

Throughout the year, our school hosts performances that showcase the musical talents of our pupils. These events provide a platform for students to demonstrate their hard work and dedication in singing in larger groups to an audience. The EYFS Nativity, KS1 Nativity, KS2 Carol Service and Year 5/6 Production are all examples of this.

In conclusion, Marcham CE Primary School's co-curricular music programme offers a number of opportunities for pupils to engage with music in meaningful and enjoyable ways.

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 an integral part of the vibrant cultural tapestry at our school. In addition to structured music lessons, we provide a wide array of musical events and opportunities that enrich our students' lives and foster a deep appreciation for music.

Daily Musical Engagement:

We sing daily during our Collective Worships, fostering a sense of community and harmony within our school. Weekly singing assemblies further hone our pupils vocal skills and instil a love for music. Music can be heard within classrooms during transition times (early morning, changing for PE, quiet reflection times).

Live Music Experiences:

Our students have been exposed to a range of live music performances, ranging from the youth orchestra performances at the Sheldonian (in past years) to individual performances from music service peripatetic teachers (this year, guitar). These experiences ignite a passion for musical instruments.

Community Performances

The school choir and individual classes actively participate in performances at the local church, spreading joy through music. These performances, witnessed by parents and the wider school community, showcase the creativity and dedication of our pupils.

Annual Productions

Unforgettable moments are created through the Year 5/6 production, EYFS and KS1 nativity plays, and KS2 Carol Service. These events provide platforms for pupils to build confidence singing as part of a larger group as well as individually to an audience.

The musical experiences we offer not only nurture artistic abilities but also foster a sense of teamwork and creativity among our pupils.

In the future

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

To further enhance our music provision at Marcham CE Primary School we will work together to:

- Provide opportunities for pupils to share musical skills within a celebration assembly once a term. This will include pupils sharing talents out of school as well as within school.
- Ensure singing is incorporated into more collective worship sessions.
- Increase staff confidence in teaching music, developing subject knowledge and skills.
- Increase the quantity and quality of our musical instruments to ensure participation, enjoyment and engagement in teacher taught sessions.
- Increase opportunities for pupils to engage with live music performances in and out of school.
- Share what we have done across classes at the end of each Charanga unit.

Further information (optional)

To supplement our offer at school., the DfE 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.