

Music development plan summary: Whale Hill Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music leads	Mrs Evenden and Miss Berry
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs Marsden
Name of local music hub	TVMS (no tuition; Charanga music scheme providers)
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A: Music tuition is provided by the school.

This is a summary of how our school, **Whale Hill Primary 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.

All documents supporting the Music Curriculum at Whale Hill Primary School can be found on the school website.

- In the Foundation Stage, music is taught through the area of learning - Expressive Arts and Design. The EYFS Statutory Framework explains that the development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports their imaginations and creativity. Music is part of a wide breadth of creative areas which gives children the opportunity to listen and respond to music, sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs, perform songs and rhymes and try to move in time with music.

- In Key Stages 1 and 2 our Music curriculum is based on the National Curriculum in England. For whole-class teaching, we use 'Charanga', a music scheme created and published by the local music hub TVMS. This scheme supports the published statutory guidance programmes of study to ensure our children have a high-quality music education.
- Through whole-class teaching, all children in lessons have access to a range of instruments. In Key Stage 1, the children use tuned and untuned percussion. In Years 3 and 4, the children each have a recorder. In Years 5 and 6, the children learn to play classical guitar. Singing takes place in both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.
- Differentiation: For children with individual needs, alternative instrument provision is always available (this includes playing tuned percussion such as glockenspiels). For children having additional music tuition with Miss Berry, the children can use their preferred instrument in lessons, such as soprano or alto saxophone; flute, clarinet and violin.
- We use Charanga, created and provided by our local music hub, TVMS.

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 lesson time, extra and additional music tuition happens on a lunchtime for the following instruments: soprano and alto saxophone; flute; clarinet and violin.

The ensembles that we offer at **Whale Hill Primary School** are:

1. The Whale Hill Choir currently for children from Years 3 – 6.
2. The Whale Hill School Band for pupils in Year 4, 5 and 6. Secondary school pupils are also actively welcomed back to play. Any pupil can join with any instrument. The band is differentiated for all levels. Pupils can join with 4 notes. The band also has members who are at about Grade 4 level.

All instruments are school's own instruments (flutes and clarinets) or Miss Berry's (Music Lead's) own instruments (saxophones and violins). There is no charge for instruments or instrument hire. Pupils can take instruments home after school and during the holidays (except the six-week holidays when they are cleaned and taken in for maintenance). Pupils can also take music home from the school band and lessons to practice and they can borrow music stands from the school (Miss Berry – Music Lead's own) to practise at home. There is no charge for instruments, equipment or

music. The school aims to keep music provision **free for all pupils** (except the purchase of some concert tickets).

Practice space available in Miss Berry's (Music Lead) classroom. Choir and band practice take place in the lower school hall.

Other support the school receives to further co-curricular music:

1. Links with a local concert band, where members are invited into the school and to support at school events. Pupils can join and have joined this band once they have reached secondary school age.
2. Links with a local brass band. This band has made sheet music donations and loaned the school several brass instruments to develop brass provision in the school from September 2024 onwards.
3. Volunteers have asked to work with the school to support the development of the school band and the provision of brass from September 2024 onwards.

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 2023 -2024 included:

Weekly

Singing in phase and whole assemblies.

Autumn Term

Christmas: In Nursery, our children had a sing-a-long, which was performed to parents. In Reception, the children learnt and sang several Christmas songs to parents who were invited into school to watch them sing.

Christmas: Key Stage One children put on a Nativity performance for parents where children sang songs that told the Christmas story.

Christmas: The School Lunchtime Christmas Ensemble played at a local venue in Middlesbrough 'Little Sprouts.' Free.

Christmas: The Whale Hill Choir were invited to sing in local nursing homes. Free.

Christmas: The Whale Hill School Christmas Concert was held. This included performances by the choir, the band and a joint performance of both. Tickets and raffle tickets were sold at this event to raise money for the music provision and the purchase of sheet music for the choir.

Christmas Tree Dressing: A mixture of invited musicians, staff and pupils played to an audience of pupils, staff and some parents. This gave all children the opportunity to

participate in singing, to hear live music and to give some pupils the opportunity to play with established musicians. Free.

Christmas: Teesside Airport. The choir were invited to sing at the terminal.

Christmas: Darlington College. The choir were invited to sing carols at the college.

Summer Term

May 2024: The first Steel River Academy Trust Concert. The four schools within the academy came together to perform a concert at a local church. This included performances by a joint Steel River Trust Academy choir, a Steel River Academy Trust joint band and a finale including choirs and musicians from all four schools performing together. The finale was also supported by staff and guest musicians from the local concert band. Free entry (with a voluntary donation to the church).

June 2024: Musical theatre production of Mary Poppins held at the school, including a performance for residents of a local care home, who were invited to an afternoon performance at the school. Tickets sold to raise money for the development of Musical Theatre provision at the school.

July 2024: Leaver's assembly – the children in Year 6 performed a selection of songs to parents to showcase their time at Whale Hill Primary School.

Proposed Musical Experiences For 2024 – 2025

To continue to offer a range of musical opportunities, concerts and experiences during each term of the new academic year similar to the previous year.

In the future

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

In subsequent years:

1. A school website page to show the instruments being taught and supported at the school.
2. A website page to show the music happening outside the classroom (clubs - choir, band and musical theatre).
3. To develop more opportunities to network with the other schools within the academy trust, with the aim to have more joint concerts, to develop a possible music festival and to enable players from other schools within the trust to join the school band. Stronger links with the local secondary schools so that more past pupils can return and be supported with their music.
4. To develop other ensembles at Whale Hill to support absolute beginners and very young players and singers in KS1. This could take the form of a recorder group and a KS1 choir.
5. To actively welcome back more past secondary pupils to play in the band and to sing in the choir. This will support them with their musical journey and hopefully create a 'music buddy' or mentoring system for the musicians and singers at Whale Hill.
6. To continue working with professionals and to continue to invite visitors and established professional musicians into school to perform and work with the children.
7. To develop brass instrument provision in the school and launch brass provision with a free workshop provided by the lead members and conductor of a local brass band.
8. School concerts published on the website after the event with videos / sound bites if possible and to seek out more opportunities to perform in the community.
9. To further develop the role of music within collective worship.
10. To purchase a basic drum kit, other instruments and equipment to offer more pupils the chance to learn another instrument and to have the equipment to play live gigs in school and in the community.
11. To update the stage, lighting and sound equipment to produce effective concerts and productions on site at Whale Hill Primary School.
12. To open an ABRSM school account to be able to enter pupils for the digital performance music grades.