

Music development plan summary: Dovecotes Primary School



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	July 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miss Belinda Phiri
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	Black Country Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Wolverhampton Music Service, working as part of the Black Country Music Hub

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.

For detail about the school curriculum for music for each year group, please refer to the school's music progression document and music intent, implementation and impact statement, which builds skills progressively from Early Years to Year 6 using guidance as set out in the Birth to 5/ Development Matters and National Curriculum document for Music: [Music | Dovecotes Primary](#).

Across the school, we adopt the Charanga music scheme to structure our curriculum from Early Years to Year 6. We chose this scheme because it sequences learning in music for each year group and uses high-quality resources which support our staff well to deliver the music curriculum.

The scheme covers the following in each lesson:

- 1. Listen and Appraise**

2. **Musical Activities** include Games, Singing, Playing, Improvising and Composing
3. **Perform/Share**

In the Early Years, music and movement is part of every-day learning. The children are taught songs and dances linked to the topics they are learning. During their time in Nursery and Reception, our children build a repertoire of familiar songs and ways of dancing. Additionally, the children are encouraged to explore a range of percussion instruments, both with an adult and independently.

As the children move into Key Stage 1, and throughout Key Stage 2, each class has a weekly music lesson for 45 mins. As part of the KS2 curriculum offer, in Year 4, we provide whole class instrument tuition, delivered by visiting specialist music teachers from Wolverhampton Music School, where children learn to play the djembe drums. Whole-class instrument tuition gives pupils a year's tuition in one instrument and the opportunity to play as an ensemble and perform showcase sessions to the wider school community including their parents.

For Early Years, KS1 and KS2 pupils, music is assessed using the Charanga assessment descriptors which are completed by teachers at the end of each unit.

As a school we have achieved the annual Music Mark award from 'The UK Association for Music Education' in recognition of a commitment to providing a high-quality music education for all children and young people.

Part B: Extra-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.

As part of our extra-curricular offer, brass and woodwind tuition is delivered by peripatetic specialist teachers from Wolverhampton Music School to those children in Year 5 and Year 6 who wish to pursue an instrument. The cost of this tuition is subsidised by the school and free to pupils.

We also have a KS2 Choir who meet once a week for half an hour, led by the Music lead.

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.

To develop the skill of singing and the joy of singing as part of a large group, Years 1–6 now perform together as a whole school in weekly assemblies where they learn new

songs and revisit familiar ones. The repertoire includes contemporary songs chosen by pupils supported by Wolverhampton Music School suggestions and backing tracks.

Through our themed days, which have included Diwali Day, we aim to give all children access to high-quality cultural experiences through music and dance workshops, led by specialists for no extra cost, such as Bhangra Bally.

Our KS2 choir perform regularly in the community, such as at the local retirement home, singing carols at Wolverhampton city market in front of their parents and shoppers and alongside pupils from other schools at the concert venue – The Halls - for a mass choir event. They also perform to their peers at the whole school carol concert and to their families at our Christmas and Summer Fayre and put on a show-stopping choir concert at the end of the year to both pupils and parents.

Our KS2 choir have also taken part in a primary singing competition at a local feeder secondary school, which provided an exciting opportunity to showcase their talents and build their confidence. Further visits take place to local secondary schools for our Upper Key Stage 2 pupils, such as visits to see end of term productions like the Aldersley High School Dance and Drama Christmas Showcase.

Our pupils also attend events put on by Wolverhampton Music School and each year, those who play an instrument and/or are in choir, get to visit the Halls concert venue in Wolverhampton to watch a full piece orchestra perform. Travel costs to the venue were paid for by the school and so are free to pupils.

Year 4 pupils who learn an instrument all year, as part of Whole Class Instrument Tuitions, perform to their parents at the end of the year to showcase their acquired skills.

Those pupils who have learnt a brass and woodwind instrument are able to perform to their peers at the whole school carol concert and to their parents and families at the school Summer Fayre.

Pupils are given access to music from different times and cultures as part of the 'Musician of the Week' which is introduced in weekly achievement assemblies. Genres covered include Western classical music, popular contemporary music and traditional music from around the world.

Parents are invited to attend class assemblies where children always perform a song as part of the event. Class assemblies are also performed to the rest of the school as dress rehearsals.

The school always treats children, from all year groups, to a pantomime free of charge at Christmas when a travelling theatre company (M&M Productions) visit school to allow our children to experience music live in the moment.

The school also arranges visits from professional musicians for inspirational talks and mini-performances such as 'The Stringcredibles', a quartet of world-class musicians who are also members of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. This year they performed *The Butterfly Lands* – a magical story of migration told through the metaphor

of a butterfly who travels to different islands; music, language, faith, clothing, food; and learns how diversity can bring richness to our experience of life.

In the future

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

To learn songs that pupils have chosen and are relevant to them (including to their cultural backgrounds).

To include Makaton and British Sign language for some of the songs learnt to support inclusion.

Organize an annual “Music Festival” at school involving parents, local musicians, and pupils performing together.

Introduce music for mindfulness sessions such as at the start of the afternoon lessons (e.g., soundscapes, calming rhythms) to support mental health.