# Music development plan summary: West Horndon Primary School

## Overview

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| 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 lead | Neil Davies |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) |  |
| Name of local music hub | Essex LA |
| 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 West Horndon Primary School, we are passionate about providing a curriculum for our learners which meets their needs in the 21st Century. We aim to develop pupil knowledge, skills and love of music in order that it may form a key part of their ongoing life experience.

We use a bespoke, interleaved curriculum in which children will enjoy two to three weeks per term learning musical language and concepts ranging from tempo and rhythm in lower years, through to texture, composition and stylistic choice in later years. These lessons will occur as a week-long focus once per half term, compliant with the 2021 model music curriculum recommendation.

Teachers use Sing-Up to develop a love of vocal performance in class-based lessons and assemblies.

In years 4, 5 and 6, pupils are able to use our WHR Radio Station, in which they may become more familiar with evaluating and choosing music.

Our music curriculum allows:

* Pupils to develop their performance skills through learning to play tuned and untuned instruments, singing a variety of songs and rehearsing and performing with others
* Pupils to develop their composing skills through creating musical patterns and exploring and organising sounds and learning to record these in a variety of ways
* Pupils to learn to analyse and compare sounds, explore ideas and make improvements to their work, building on their appraising skills
* Pupils to learn to listen with increased concentration to internalise and recall sounds

Children with SEND are individually supported in class depending on their various requirements, for example: use of ear defenders when music lessons are louder than average, teacher’s ability to differentiate their lessons and use planning to challenge all pupils depending on their ability.

## 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.

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| At West Horndon, children in Key Stage 2 may access musical tuition for a range of instruments, using teachers supplied by the Local Authority.  Children learn clarinet, recorder and flute, and they demonstrate their skills by performing to an audience as a part of the Christmas Assembly for parents.  In addition, it is a tradition that our Year 6 children learn the ukulele with a view to performing the closing part of the end of year school show, which forms a large part of their leavers’ programme. During the year, the instruments are supplied by the school and may be taken home, to promote responsibility and a love of practicing. Lessons are taught weekly by the Music Leader.  As part of the Year 6 residential, the children have the opportunity to see a live folk band in Ironbridge, Shropshire. |

## Part C: Musical experiences, performances and events

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.

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| Children enjoy weekly singing assemblies, jointly led by the Music Leader and Leader of Enhanced Provision. The focus of these assemblies will be driven by any upcoming performances such as Remembrance for KS2 in Autumn, Year 5 and 6 Young Voices, Christmas performances for KS1 and EYFS and Year 6 for their Christmas Carol performance within the local community, when they perform at the train station for commuters and local garden centre.  Year 6 children learn to play the ukulele with a view to perform to parents during the end of year show. As part if this teaching, they will be shown correct posture, grip and finger positions, as well has how to play individual notes and chords either with finger strumming, picking, or with a plectrum. They also have the opportunity to play with a live folk band during their residential trip to Ironbridge.  Each year, the school attends Young Voices at the O2, in which children from Years 5 and 6 to take part in a national choir concert.  In addition to teacher-led lessons, children also access 1:1 tuition from music teachers in a range of instruments, including clarinet, flute and recorder. |

## In the future

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| At West Horndon Primary School, we aspire for all of our children to be given the opportunity to learn a musical instrument.  In the coming year, the school will explore opportunities to provide further musical tuition in a range of instruments.  It is intended to establish a school band or bands. This will require the purchase of musical equipment such as guitars, drums, keyboards and any other appropriate equipment. Using existing equipment following the recent upgrade of our radio station, the school will also begin to establish the means to record singing or instrumentation, allowing for professional production of music. It is intended that this will teach children about recording technologies and techniques, therefore making music appealing even to those children who may not wish to perform.  In addition to the Year 5 and 6 Young Voices experience, we intend to establish a school choir where children will learn how to sing as a part of an ensemble, singing different parts to achieve more developed sound.   * Although music tuition is currently separately available after school, at a local secondary school, the new Music Leader will seek to make links with specialist music teachers from the secondary schools to which children from West Horndon Primary School usually go on to attend. This will also assist with the overall success of transition. |

## Further information (optional)

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| Essex County Council Music Services:  [www.essexmusichub.org.uk](http://www.essexmusichub.org.uk)  Sing Up Curriculum:  <https://www.singup.org/> |