

Music Development Plan Summary

Bedlington West End Primary School



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	October 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 2027
Name of the school music lead	Marilyn Madgwick
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Northumberland Music Services
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	No other formal partnerships

At Bedlington West End Primary School, music education is delivered to all our pupils across three areas: **Curriculum music**, **Co-curricular provision** and **Musical experiences** including potential changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils, parents and carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

At Bedlington West End Primary School, we are passionate about providing a broad-balanced curriculum and the wider arts are highly valued. We are committed to providing musical education and opportunities for all children, during their time at our school.

Alongside the 2014 National Curriculum, and the new Model Music Curriculum 2021, it is our aim to develop:

- Children who have the skills and knowledge to succeed in the 21st Century
- Children's understanding and use of subject-specific words.
- Children who can sing and use their voices individually and in a group.
- Children who can create and compose music on their own and with others.
- The use of technology appropriately when composing.
- Opportunities for every child to learn a musical instrument.
- Children who can understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated.
- Children who love listening to live music.
- Children's enjoyment of music!

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.

Curriculum

At Bedlington West End Primary School, we use the Kapow Primary Music Scheme across the school. This scheme of work fulfils the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum (2014).

The National Curriculum for Music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- *Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians*
- *Learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence*
- *Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.*

Class teachers use the Schemes of Learning, and through their knowledge of the children they teach, adapt it to ensure that every child can access and enjoy music within our school.

Sequencing and progression is supported and monitored by the Music Lead using yearly curriculum mapping for each year group from EYFS through to Year 6.

We explore music through the inter-related dimensions of music: performing, listening, composing and the history of music. We focus on developing the skills, knowledge and understanding that children need in order to become confident performers, composers, and listeners. Children develop the musical skills of singing, playing tuned and un- tuned instruments, improvising and composing music, and listening and responding to music.

Kapow Primary's Music scheme has been designed as a spiral curriculum with the following key principles in mind:

- **Cyclical:** Pupils return to the same skills and knowledge as they progress through each year group.
- **Increasing depth:** Each time a skill or area of knowledge is revisited, it is covered with greater depth.
- **Prior knowledge:** Children are given the opportunity to re-cap and build on what they have learnt previously.

Our curriculum introduces children to music from all around the world and across generations, thereby helping them to develop an understanding of the history and cultural context of the music that they listen to and teaching them to respect and appreciate the music of all traditions and communities.

Composition and Performance skills are continuously built upon from using body percussion and vocal sounds in EYFS and KS1 to using musical notation through learning an instrument.

As children progress through the school, we expect them to maintain their concentration for longer and to listen to more extended pieces of music. Children develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. We teach them the disciplined skills of recognising pulse and pitch.

Through music, our curriculum helps children develop transferable skills such as team-working, leadership, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, and presentation and performance skills. At West End Primary, we believe that these skills are vital to children's development as learners and have a wider application in their general lives outside and beyond school.

Implementation

In accordance with the National Curriculum, we ensure that coverage of knowledge and skills is developed sequentially throughout the school. We have adopted the Kapow Scheme to cover one unit per half-term and music is taught each week for one hour across the school.

Kapow provides a classroom-based, participatory and inclusive approach to music learning. Through a range of whole class, group and individual activities, children have opportunities to explore sounds, listen actively, compose and perform.

During music lessons, children are given opportunities to learn music-specific vocabulary in a meaningful context. The elements of music are taught in classroom lessons so that children are able to use the language of music to discuss it, and understand how it is made, played, appreciated and analysed. They learn to recognise and name the interrelated dimensions of music - pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, structure, texture and dynamics - and use these expressively in their own improvisations and compositions. The children are given opportunities to apply their skills and given a chance for collaboration through composition.

In KS2, the children have an opportunity to use technology as well as instruments to compose their own music.

Music in EYFS

Music in the Foundation Stage is taught as an integral part of their learning and is planned for and delivered as part of a specific area of development.

Expressive Arts: Being Imaginative, identified in the Foundation Stage Framework (2014). We relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs).

The implementation of Music at EYFS level particularly focuses on the personal and social development of the children and music used to support the children to develop their own ideas, thoughts and feelings through singing and moving to music.

Children's standards and achievements in Music are assessed in line with the School's Assessment Policy.

DfE's Model Music Curriculum

The DfE's Model Music Curriculum 2021 states that:

'In Years 3 or 4, it is recommended that each class should start a whole-class instrumental programme lasting a minimum of one term...Opportunities for development should continue beyond the mandatory term.' At Bedlington West End Primary School, our children learn to play glockenspiels across all of Key Stage 2 (years 3 to 6) and develop the children's skills in reading musical notation and begin to perform songs with more complexity as they move in to upper Key Stage 2 (years 5 and 6).

Planning

Our Schemes of Learning and medium term plans show which of the units cover each of the National Curriculum attainment targets. The Schemes of Learning and medium term plans also detail the progression of skills and knowledge within each year group to ensure that attainment targets are securely met by the end of EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Lesson plans include guidance on differentiation to allow all children to access the music lessons and subject specific guidance is provided for teaching staff to allow non-music specialists to teach with confidence.

Adaptation

We recognise that there are children of widely different musical abilities in all classes, so we provide suitable learning opportunities for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child.

We achieve this in a variety of ways by setting open-ended tasks which could have a variety of responses, setting tasks of increasing difficulty (not all children complete all tasks) and providing resources to support all children.

Special Educational Needs (SEND)

We strive to remove barriers to learning for pupils with SEND. Adopting a positive and proactive approach will ensure that children with SEND are able to express themselves and take an active part in lessons. Explicit instructions and scaffolding will enable all pupils to achieve and succeed in music.

Assessment

Children are assessed against on-going Assessment for Learning (AfL) and assessments against learning objectives are carried out at the end of each unit to ensure all pupils are making progress. These assessments are then monitored and evaluated by the subject leader for music and support provided, as required.

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.

There are many opportunities for pupils at Bedlington West End Primary School to enhance their music education outside of our main curriculum offer.

In partnership with the Music Partnership North and independent partnerships, we currently provide pupils with the opportunity to learn a variety of instruments through specialist peripatetic provision, including: guitar, keyboard and violin. These lessons are taught to individuals and small groups. Pupils have the option to loan an instrument for the duration of the lessons.

Through working with Music Partnership North, we are able to sign-post our children to the other opportunities provided by Music Partnership North, to enable our children to extend their knowledge and skills further, including weekly ensembles, groups and orchestras.

Our school choir is run by our Music Lead. The choir take part in local and regional competitions and often perform in the local community.

In recent years, staff from our school have undertaken professional learning with The Royal Opera House on their 'Create and Dance' and 'Create and Sing' programmes and we continue to use their learning resources and training to enhance our provision.

Part C: Musical Events and 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.

Music enables our children to express themselves and build self-esteem.

Our children at Bedlington West End Primary School are given numerous opportunities throughout the year to perform in front of an audience and develop their confidence and performance skills.

During EYFS KS1 and LKS2, all our children take part in our school's Nativity. Year 6 enjoy an end of year performance and Leavers Assembly.

Children in KS1 and KS2 also have opportunities to perform in music and choir concerts for parents during the year, to showcase their learning of their voice or a musical instrument.

Each week, the children take part in a whole school singing assembly, to foster a love of singing and develop an awareness of music from different genres, time periods and countries.

KS1 and KS2 children have the opportunity to attend clubs run by school staff for example Boomwhacker club and Ukelele club.

The children in our Key Stage 2 choir have the opportunity to perform in front of a large audience through their participation in the 'Primary School Choir of the Year' competition held at Durham Cathedral. The children have had the opportunity to enter a song to compete in the regional final and had a fantastic experience of singing in the final at the cathedral.

We have other opportunities during the school year, where children can attend other musical and drama performances at local theatres, as the opportunities arise, eg. Visiting theatres to watch a pantomime or a performance that is topic related. Where out-of-school events are attended, we request a voluntary contribution from most parents, however those eligible for Pupil Premium are provided with these opportunities free of charge and the school subsidises these places.

In the future

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

At Bedlington West End Primary School, we will continue to value the wider arts and support children in exploring their talents, knowledge and understanding.

We will continue to provide opportunities for all children to express themselves through music and the creative arts; to incorporate more opportunities to watch music in the wider community; and to inspire children to continue learning to play a musical beyond primary school.

We will endeavor to work effectively with the Northumberland Music Hub to enhance our school music provision.

We will seek further opportunities for our pupils to experience live music, either in school or in our wider community, to further foster the love of the arts and allow children to explore their musical talents and provide enjoyment for years to come.

Further information

Should you wish to find out more about our music provision at Bedlington West End Primary School, please view our Music section of the website through the link below: https://435-northumberland.eschools.co.uk/website/curriculum_information/639766 or alternatively contact the school office via telephone (01302 852200) or email (admin@westend.northumberland.sch.uk) and request to speak to the Music Lead in school.

Our Local Music Hub has further information about the opportunities available in the local area – please follow the link below for more information:

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Music-Service.aspx>

The Department for Education has published 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 – please follow the link below for more information.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people/what-the-national-plan-for-music-education-means-for-children-and-young-people>

