

Music development plan summary: [Caversham Primary School]

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	17 th September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	17 th September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Steven Wright
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Charlie Crockford (Deputy Headteacher)
Name of local music hub	Berkshire Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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 Caversham Primary school, we teach the music curriculum to pupils across the whole school. Music lessons are delivered through individual learning objectives as detailed in our music scheme of choice, Music Express (provided by Collins Education). Within the music scheme, there are opportunities for supporting pupils with special educational needs in each lesson, as stated in each lesson plan. Our whole-school curriculum overview is published on our website:

<https://www.cavershamprimary.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Caversham-Primary-School-Curriculum-September-2024.pdf>

Each year group teaches at least six music lessons per long term (this totals 36 lessons across the year) and each individual lesson lasts typically 30 minutes (this is clearly detailed on each year group's timetable).

Our school music curriculum is effectively informed by the Model Music Curriculum (MMC) and Music Express clearly outlines how each objective in the MMC is covered in the scheme by each year group. **This information is readily available upon request.**

In music lessons, pupils are given a range of opportunities to learn to both sing and play different instruments through whole-class ensemble teaching. For example, by the end of Key Stage 1, pupils will have sung songs together as a group; performed a rhythmic chant; learnt to play percussion with control; and developed an understanding of pitch using percussive instruments. By the end of Key Stage 2, pupils will have sung in two-part harmony; combined body percussion ostinati as a song accompaniment; controlled sounds on a variety of instruments; and learnt to sing major and minor note patterns accurately.

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.

Our partnership with Berkshire Music Trust allows pupils to learn a range of musical instruments during their time at the school. Pupils are given the opportunity to learn brass and/or woodwind instruments (including violin, flute, clarinet and oboe) through individual and small group lessons delivered by experienced peripatetic instrument teachers. Pupils have access to our music room where these lessons take place and where they can practise their instrument. These lessons are paid for by parents on a termly basis and this is arranged through Berkshire Music Trust (this is offered to pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium if they are interested in music tuition). In addition to individual instrument lessons, the school works with Berkshire Music Trust to provide whole year group instrument tuition. In Year 2, the pupils receive weekly recorder lessons for a whole term, whilst Year 4 pupils receive weekly ukulele lessons.

Further to peripatetic instrument tuition, pupils are offered a range of ensemble opportunities delivered by class teachers during lunchtimes. Pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 are invited to audition and, if successful, participate in the School Band (run by one of our Deputy Headteachers), which comprises of pupils learning and performing pop and rock songs using contemporary instruments such as drums, piano, guitar and vocals. Our music leader also runs an orchestra at lunchtime, which offers pupils an opportunity to form an ensemble of classical instruments. Pupils across key stage two are also given the opportunity to take part in a choir, run by another class teacher at lunchtimes. All of these ensembles/clubs are free of charge and very popular.

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.

We pride ourselves in the range of musical experiences that are provided at Caversham Primary School, ranging from singing assemblies to off-site singing performances.

Pupils in both key stages take part in singing assemblies each week, which consist of learning, practising and performing songs using the website 'Sing Up'. Class teachers deliver these assemblies each week – we carefully timetable these assemblies to ensure that cross-curricular links can be made, in addition to supplementing our British Values that are taught.

Pupils in EYFS welcome to school an African steel drum group each year, who deliver a steel drum workshop that involves the pupils learning rhythms that they can perform using body percussion.

Pupils in year 5 take part in the annual Junior Music Festival at our local theatre, which is a very popular concert that involves pupils learning and performing songs alongside hundreds of other children from the local area. Aside from a charge for parental tickets (which are optional), this is free of charge and offered to all pupils in the year group as part of the music curriculum.

Pupils in Year 6 take part in Young Voices at The O2 arena, which is a large-scale singing concert consisting of thousands of pupils from across the country. The year 6 pupils learn and practise a number of contemporary songs during their music lessons before taking part in the concert each January. This opportunity is offered to all pupils in the year group as part of the music curriculum. Parents are required to pay for the coach travel for this event (with the exception of those in receipt of pupil premium) and parents are given the opportunity to purchase audience tickets for the event.

The whole school visits a local theatre each Christmas to watch a pantomime show delivered by professional actors and musicians. Parents are required to pay for the coach travel for this event (with the exception of those in receipt of pupil premium).

Every July, we hold a key stage 2 summer concert, which involves pupils performing pieces of music that they have learnt over the year in a thrilling concert to parents. Pupils who receive instrument lessons in school are encouraged to take part in this concert, as well as pupils who have taken part in our choir, orchestra and school band.

In the future

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

In order to further enrich our pupils' music experiences, there are a number of potential expansion and development ideas that we aim to commit to in the coming years:

- Improve the range of instruments used in curricular music lessons (extending our offer to further tuned instruments)
- Offer a choir/vocal ensemble aimed at both key stages
- Offer whole-school singing performances each term
- Further musical opportunities offered to key stage 1 pupils (such as music workshops)
- Offer instrument tuition for a wider range of instruments