

Music development plan summary: Wood Fold Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	May 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	May 2025
Name of the school music lead	Jessica Buckle
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Kirstin Lewis (DHT)
Name of local music hub	Wigan Music Services
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 Wood Fold Primary School we recognise that as one of the most creative art forms, music is a unique and universal method of communication which enriches children's lives. We are committed to providing a high standard of music education and provision for our pupils, aiming to inspire a love and appreciation of music, develop talent and provide children with a tool for personal expression. We recognise that music supports children's social, emotional and mental health as well as improving their confidence and giving them a sense of achievement.

Our curriculum is informed by the model music curriculum and Ofsted research reviews, setting out a clear pathway for progression, that enables pupils to develop across the interrelated pillars of technical, constructive and expressive development. Our curriculum comprises the teaching of the interrelated dimensions of pulse, rhythm, dynamics, structure, texture, harmony, timbre, instrumentation, melody and notation.

Each half term children explore the different elements of listening, performing and composing. As pupils progress through school, so does their critical engagement with music, building their awareness of musical periods and comparing and contrasting different musical styles. Each unit consolidates and builds on prior learning: for example in Year 2 children make use of dots and graphic scoring, progressing to Year 6 where children play melodies from staff notation.

We deliver a music curriculum that supports and celebrates inclusivity and diversity, encompassing a wide variety of music from different traditions and eras. Where appropriate, we also utilise the many cross curricular links that music has with other subjects, for example English, history, geography and PSHE. For more detail please view our music long term plan which is published on our website.

Music is taught for an hour each week across school by a specialist music teacher, employed directly by school, who is secondary trained. Pupils learn a range of tuned instruments during their time at Wood Fold. In Year 2 children are introduced to the recorder and have the opportunity to play as part of an ensemble. In Year 4, specialist teachers from Wigan Music Service teach children how to play a selection of pieces on orchestral string instruments, developing musicianship ensemble and solo skills and performance techniques. Years 5 and 6 learn key skills on the Ukelele such as triad building, improvisation using scales and experimenting with musical arrangements. Singing is embedded throughout most music lessons and progresses from single melody lines to singing rounds, harmonising and building up to an octave range.

Our key knowledge document sets out the key substantive and procedural knowledge that children are expected to retain at the end of each unit, along with the core vocabulary. This document is then used as a basis for assessment. Opportunities for revisiting and building upon knowledge are built into the curriculum, and children have weekly opportunities for retrieval practice ensuring this knowledge is retained and they have a secure base from which they can progress.

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 extra-curricular music opportunities at Wood Fold.

These consist of:

- A KS2 choir
- A KS1 recorders club

- A KS2 ukelele club
- A KS2 performing arts club

Children can also take part in one-to-one, small-group and large-group music tuition provided by Wigan Music Services. Specialist teachers offer a wide range of instrumental lessons across the woodwind, strings, brass and percussion families. Families are able to sign up each term. Once children have received their wider opportunities entitlement in lesson time, the following year's lessons are offered at a subsidised rate by Wigan Music Service.

Current lessons include:

- violin
- guitar
- keyboard
- piano
- cornet
- trumpet
- recorder
- flute
- saxophone
- drums

Children are able to loan instruments and can also take part in graded exams. Wigan Music Service also offer music workshops during holiday periods.

We have a dedicated music room where children are able to rehearse or practise either individually or in groups: for KS1 this is Tuesdays and KS2 on Fridays.

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.

Throughout school, children have the opportunity to perform in front of their peers and families to celebrate their musical progression and achievements. As well as opportunities to perform both as solo and ensemble groups in lesson time, children take part in the following events and opportunities:

All children in KS1 take part in three musical performances each year: the Christmas play, Mother's Day assembly and Father's Day assembly.

In KS2, children take part in a Christmas performance and a biannual KS2 summer production. Y6 also lead an end of year assembly.

Year 4 work with Wigan Music Service to prepare a performance for parents each year displaying their learning on stringed instruments across the year.

KS2 Performing Arts club also prepare a summer performance for parents: for 2024 this is The Boy, The Mole, The Fox, The Horse.

The KS2 choir have regular opportunities to perform, for example to sing at the Standish Christmas markets each year and take part in Young Voices annually, which provides them with the opportunity to perform to a large audience. In school, the choir have the opportunity to sing in school assemblies on special occasions and this year will sing on Sports Day which thematically links to the forthcoming Olympics. They also take part in the Greater Manchester Singing Challenge each spring.

This year, Year 5 have worked collaboratively with the Halle Orchestra musicians to compose and learn musical performances based on iconic orchestral pieces from different periods and culture. They also watched the Halle perform at Bridgewater Hall.

All children have the opportunity to watch live performances across the year. Wigan Music Service perform 'Music Alive' on a range of instruments to widen children's knowledge of the different instruments and inspire them to take up music lessons. Children also watch pantomime performances at Christmas.

In addition to this, children sing as part of assemblies and their understanding of music is widened through a 'Composer of the Month' initiative. This music is played for children during assemblies to widen their understanding of famous composers and musical periods.

In the future

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

- Ensuring performance opportunities for all children involved in clubs
- Increasing opportunities music visitors/more specialised trips
- Increasing links with local high school music departments

Further information (optional)

For more details about local music opportunities:

- Wigan Music Hub: [About Wigan Music Service](#)
- The Department for Education publishes 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.