

Music development plan summary: The Gates Primary School and Nursery

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Richmond
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Greater Manchester
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.

Music is an integral part of life at The Gates Primary School and lessons are fun and engaging. Our pupils are given the chance to move their bodies, learn songs, play instruments, read graphic scores, reflect on and appreciate Music.

We aim for children to:

- Know and use key music vocabulary to describe and write their own music.
- Be composers, writing music and being inspired by the music of others.
- Learn key music skills, using tuned and untuned instruments.
- Perform music with confidence, individually and within groups.

- Learn the history of music, how it relates to culture and community, and identify key musicians both from the modern day and the past.

Explicit music lessons are taught by the class teacher and all children receive a minimum of 6 hours of music lessons each term.

The Gates Primary School uses the National Curriculum guidance documents, alongside resources from the BBC, Charanga and Musical Futures Online to teach music to a high standard across the school.

Music lessons include percussion, whole-class singing, group and solo performances using glockenspiels, chair drumming, djembe drumming rhythms, Bamboo Tamboo and listening to and responding to a range of musical genres and instruments. Children are taught about pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture and structure. They learn to read from graphic scores and staff notation. The children are encouraged to be creative and compose their own responses to the learning taking place.

Children in EYFS have the opportunity to explore a range of tuned and un-tuned percussion instruments.

KS1 pupils have the opportunity to explore a range of untuned and tuned percussion instruments. They create short accompaniments to songs they are learning.

KS2 pupils receive whole-class ensemble teaching on chair drumming, glockenspiels and djembe drumming rhythms.

Bamboo Tamboo activities will be trialled this year.

All children learn a range of songs in curriculum music lessons; learn to read either graphic scores or standard notation and listen to a wide range of musical genres.

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.

Guitar and keyboard tuition is offered as extra-curricular activities and these take place as one-to-one or small-group lessons. Bolton Music Service provides these lessons.

A guitar club meets after school every week. There are performance opportunities during our week music assembly. Bolton Music Service provides these lessons.

A newly-formed Rock Band meets after school and this is being trialled over the Autumn Term. The instrumentation is electric guitar, bass guitar, drum-kit, keyboard

and vocals. There is a performance activity for parents to watch and it is recorded for viewing during the Music assembly.

The children can join the school choir. It participates in performances in the school, parish church and in the local care home.

Each week, the children attend a Music assembly where they learn and practise songs in preparation for assemblies. Performances of curriculum Music activities also take place in these assemblies.

Songs are often used in other lessons, such as Science, Languages or Mathematics to aid in memory retention and to promote the learning of pitch, beat and rhythm.

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.

During the year there are many opportunities for children to take part in musical events including phase performances for parents and carers of children from Nursery to Y6. Visits are made to professional concerts in KS2 and we have visits from professional and amateur musicians.

Key Stage 2 classes participate in online workshops from Chetham's School of Music and the Royal Opera and Ballet live lessons.

In the future

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

It is an aim to increase the number of Music assembly performances from extra-curricular lessons.

After trialling Bamboo Tamboo, it is an aim to incorporate it into our curriculum.