

# Music development plan summary: Upton Westlea Primary School

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Vicky Field
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	-
Name of local music hub	Musical Routes Education Hub Cheshire
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.

For Curriculum Music Westlea use the programme Sing up, this is a progressive scheme which starts with sessions in our Nursery all the way up to Year 6 and is taught weekly. The scheme allows children to engage with a wide range of musical experiences and encourages the children to listen to and respond to a wide range of music and artists.

We aim to make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we endeavour to build up the confidence of all children. Children are given the opportunity to discover, explore and develop technical skills through practical music lessons. This involves both whole class and small group activities.

We use the programme of Sing up to support the teaching of Music. The programme consists of units of work including:

- Six week units which are based around a song, and the musical learning flows from the features of the piece. Taking an integrated approach, these units combine singing and playing, listening and appraising as well as improvising and composing.
- Three week units which are grouped to cover a half term which focus more heavily on composing/improvising or on listening/appraising. These units support pupils to find their own creative voices. The listen and appraise units vary, with some focusing on active ways to listen for deeper and more internalised experience through movement, dance or art activity.

Pupils' understanding of music will be developed through activities which bring together the requirements of performing, composing, listening and appraising. Children are taught to recognise the musical elements of duration, dynamics, pitch, tempo, timbre and texture.

Children are taught to make music together, to understand musical notation, and to compose pieces. They are also taught to sing and play in time controlling the sound

and pace. They are taught different ways to represent sounds graphically and symbolically.

We teach them to listen to and appreciate different forms of music from various backgrounds and cultures. Assembly songs are also linked to various annual celebrations and festivals such as Harvest, Christmas. We also have a composer of the term and their music is played at the beginning of the assemblies as the children walk in. Again, this provides children with the opportunity to learn about a variety of musicians through time and their music.

In Year 5, children are provided with the opportunity to participate in a whole class instrumental teaching scheme which is provided by Musical Routes Education Hub Cheshire. These lessons help the children to further develop their skills in making music together and understanding musical notation. After learning a brass instrument for ten weeks the children perform to the school and their parents and carers.

## **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.

At Upton Westlea, we have a choir which all children can attend. The choir is led by Louise Wright and runs after school weekly. The choir learn a wide range of songs and enjoy performing to the rest of the school and at community events such as Carol Services, at Nursing Homes and events run by Amasing.

Children in Year 5, are able to loan their brass instruments for the ten weeks that they are learning the instrument free of charge. This encourages the children to practise their new learning at home.

## **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.

Every Wednesday, the whole school take part in a Singing Assembly. The children learn a wide range of songs and enjoy singing as a whole school.

During the school year, all children have the opportunity to take part in a show or production. At Christmas, Nursery, Reception and KS1 children take part in a nativity based show including acting and singing. KS2 children learn a wide range of songs to

perform at the Carols by Candlelight show. Families are invited to see the children's performances throughout the year, free of charge.

All classes, from Reception to Year 6, are able to attend a Pantomime at the local Theatre, the children enjoy watching a professional performance with acting and singing.

The Year 5 class, are annually invited to the local, feeder high school to watch the production that has been produced by the children.

The year 6 children have the opportunity to complete a behind the scenes tour of the Storyhouse theatre in Chester, this gives them an insight into how the theatre is run and the different areas back stage within the theatre.

As a school, we work in partnership with the Storyhouse. A Storyhouse practitioner comes in weekly to work with a class. They learn about their unit of work for History or Geography with the practitioner with a range of activities planned to support their learning and also their acting and musical skills.

## In the future

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

For the academic year 2024/25, school are going to reintroduce our Family picnic and performance afternoon. Each class will learn a song/performance and will be given the opportunity to perform to the whole school community.

Subject leader will look into any companies or music teachers who are prepared to come into school and teach an instrument – this would be at cost to the parents so an expression of interest will also be sought.