Music development plan summary: Nether Alderley Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Samantha Morley
Name of local music hub	Love Music Trust

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 Nether Alderley Primary School, we wholeheartedly recognise the profound significance of music in enriching the educational experience and fostering a culture of creativity and expression. Music is not merely an isolated subject; it is an essential element of our holistic approach to learning, interwoven through the fabric of our curriculum. Our aspiration is to instil a sense of inclusivity and self-expression within our students, allowing them to engage with music in a myriad of ways, and empowering them to become confident, articulate individuals.

In alignment with the National Curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum, we have developed a robust and comprehensive music programme that reflects our commitment to delivering high-quality music education. At the heart of our music curriculum is the use of Sing Up, a dynamic resource that offers a diverse array of musical styles and genres. This platform plays a pivotal role in our approach, providing students with opportunities to explore the rich tapestry of musical expression. Sing Up covers key areas such as listening, performing, notation, and composing, allowing our young learners to cultivate a well-rounded understanding of music and its multifaceted nature.

Our curriculum design is intentional and inclusive, ensuring that every child, regardless of background or ability, can engage meaningfully with music. Throughout their lessons, students are encouraged to explore music through various avenues, including their bodies, tuned and untuned instruments. This experiential learning is crucial in fostering a deep connection to the subject matter. Whether working in groups, collaborating with peers, or engaging in individual projects, students experience an array of musical concepts that promote teamwork, resilience, and creativity.

To further enhance the learning experience, music is not confined to the weekly dedicated lessons; it is intricately woven into the broader curriculum across different subjects and activities. This interdisciplinary approach enables pupils to witness the practical applications of music in various contexts, thereby enriching their overall educational journey. From using rhythmic elements in mathematics to exploring historical music within history lessons, the integration of music across the curriculum cultivates a comprehensive understanding of its relevance and importance in the world.

Sing Up, as the cornerstone of our music education, makes the subject accessible and enjoyable for all learners. The programme supports our commitment to inclusivity, providing resources that cater to diverse learning styles and abilities. Every child has the opportunity to showcase their individual talents, fostering a sense of belonging and community within the classroom. Music encourages the development of critical life skills, such as collaboration, communication, and creativity, which are essential for our students' holistic development and future success.

Please see the Sing up overview here: SUM_Units_overview_2-yr_cycle_Sep-24.pdf (singup.org)

Love Music Trust come into school to deliver full class instrumental lessons for our year 3,4,5 and 6 students. Helping them to understand notation, the wider aspects of music and how to play an instrument.

In conclusion, the music curriculum at Nether Alderley Primary School is a vital part of our educational philosophy. By fostering an inclusive, expressive, and experiential approach to music, we aim to inspire our students, promoting a love for the arts that transcends the classroom. Through our adherence to the National Curriculum and our innovative use of Sing Up, we strive to create a stimulating environment where every child's musical journey is valued and nurtured. We believe that by embedding music within our curriculum, we are cultivating not only musicians but also individuals who will thrive in a diverse and dynamic world.

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 our school, we are committed to fostering a comprehensive music programme that enriches the educational experience of our students. A key aspect of our co-curricular music provision includes inclusive access to individual music lessons, specifically for guitar, piano and drums. We engage external music teachers who provide expert 1:1 tuition, ensuring that all students, irrespective of their prior musical exposure, may explore their potential. To facilitate this, parents contribute towards the cost of these lessons, enhancing our partnership with families and promoting the value of music education.

Students also have the invaluable opportunity to showcase their skills through performances during school assemblies. These sessions not only allow learners to demonstrate what they have accomplished in their individual lessons but also build confidence and stage presence.

Our annual event, titled "Nether Alderley's Got Talent," serves as a highlight of the school calendar. In this event, children can participate either individually or in groups, performing a variety of talents, predominantly focused on music, including singing, dancing, and instrumental performances. This event encourages creativity and teamwork among the students.

Furthermore, we offer an after-school choir for children in Year 1 to Year 6. This ensemble experience enables students to learn to sing in parts and harmonies, culminating in performances that showcase their hard work. Last year, our choir had the honour of performing on stage at Fallibroome Academy, an experience that inspired both participants and audience members alike.

KS1 students also have to opportunity to sing in the community at Christmas time, singing at care homes or in supermarkets.

This year, Year 3 and 4 students will have the opportunity to participate in Sing Fest, performing at Congleton Town Hall. They are dedicating time to learn numerous songs as a Class 3 choir, collaborating with other students from across Cheshire East to enhance their musical talents and confidence.

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.

At our school, we recognise the importance of providing enriching musical experiences that foster a love for music among our students. Our commitment to music education is embedded in various school activities and initiatives, ensuring that every child, from Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) to Key Stage 2 (KS2), has the opportunity to engage with music in meaningful ways.

One of our key partnerships is with the Love Music Trust, which generously organises a concert to showcase the progress made by our KS2 students during whole-class instrumental sessions. This event not only provides a platform for students to demonstrate what they have learned but also fosters a sense of accomplishment and pride, encouraging continued participation in music.

As the festive season approaches, our school holds a Christmas nativity performed by the EYFS and KS1 students. This production engages our youngest learners in storytelling through song and drama, allowing them to develop their confidence and creativity. Additionally, we organise a Christmas carol concert for the whole school held in a local church, where parents are invited to join us in celebrating the season. This event not only strengthens community ties but also allows students to perform in a revered setting, fostering a sense of pride in their accomplishments.

The summer months offer yet another opportunity for our EYFS and KS1 students to shine through a summer show. This performance is curated around a specific topic that the students have been learning, allowing them to explore music, drama, and dance while integrating their classroom knowledge. This approach fosters creativity, collaboration, and a deeper understanding of the subject matter.

For our KS2 students, the final term features a fully-fledged musical performed at Fallibroome Academy. This event is particularly significant, as it provides an opportunity for our older students to perform in front of a large audience, enhancing their experiences in theatre arts and musical performance. Such opportunities not only build students' self-esteem but also help in developing their teamwork and communication skills.

In order to promote singing and the overall well-being of students, we hold a weekly singing assembly where all pupils engage in collective singing. This consistent practice highlights the importance of music in school life, serving as both a morale booster and a channel for self-expression.

Our school maintains strong links with Fallibroome Academy, which allows our students to attend performances and participate in singing events across the Halliard Trust. This collaboration enriches our music curriculum and introduces students to a broader range of musical experiences.

Each year, during Creativity Week, all schools within the Halliard Trust participate in a variety of workshops led by outside providers. These sessions cover music, drama, and art, featuring drumming workshops, dance classes, musical theatre, and singing workshops. This week not only enhances the students' creative skills but also provides them with exposure to different forms of artistic expression.

To further enrich our students' musical experiences, every Christmas, all classes embark on an outing to watch a musical performance, be it a pantomime or a live show. This annual event nurtures a love for the performing arts and allows students to appreciate the craftsmanship involved in live performances.

As part of our Year 6 leavers assembly, we incorporate musical opportunities, such as singing, to celebrate the students' achievements as they transition to secondary education. Additionally, our Harvest assembly includes singing harvest songs to parents, reinforcing the importance of community spirit and gratitude.

Finally, throughout the year, we do 'clubs', which every student participates in, that encompass a variety of topics. For EYFS and KS1, students have the opportunity to learn the ukulele, while KS2 students can explore samba and Cuban drumming. These clubs further foster musical interests and skills beyond the classroom, promoting lifelong engagement with the arts.

With these diverse musical experiences, we aim to create a vibrant and inclusive environment that nurtures and inspires every child’s musical journey.

In the future

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

As we look to the future, it is imperative that we continue to develop our planning for music education, ensuring that it accommodates the diverse needs of all students. We aim to build on our existing framework by further enhancing staff expertise in delivering music lessons, particularly through established initiatives like the Sing Up scheme. This will ensure that our students receive high-quality instruction and engagement.

Moreover, we are committed to enriching our local community with increased musical experiences. By introducing more choir opportunities, we will not only foster a love for music within our school but also extend our reach into the wider community, creating shared experiences that celebrate musical creativity.

To showcase the talents and skills acquired in class, we want to implement regular assemblies and concert events designed to highlight students' achievements in music. These occasions will provide valuable opportunities for students to perform for their parents and peers, fostering a sense of pride and accomplishment.

In collaboration with local high schools and primary schools, we want to seek opportunities to produce larger musical productions. Such partnerships would allow students to benefit from shared resources and expertise, creating a richer musical experience for all involved.

Additionally, we want to actively signpost music-related opportunities for parents outside of school, thereby encouraging a supportive environment for student musical development.

We want to engage with parents with musical skills, as workshops in various music styles, including music technology and rap, could provide students with unique learning experiences.

Continuing professional development (CPD) and training sessions will be essential for our staff, wherein we will identify and address specific areas that require further development. Finally, we want to seek opportunities for students to attend classical music concerts, broadening their understanding of different musical genres and enriching their overall musical knowledge. Together, these initiatives will nurture a deep, lasting interest in music throughout our school and across the wider curriculum.

Further information (optional)

Link to the Love Music Trust Website:

The Love Music Trust

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.

Love Music Trust plan for local education:

School Music Education Plan 22-23 (lovemusictrust.com)

Schools Development Plan :: The Love Music Trust

Progression :: The Love Music Trust

Your local music hub should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.

Fallibroome Trust Strategic plan:

Strategic Plan – The Fallibroome Trust