

Music development plan summary: Churwell Primary Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	November 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	November 2026
Name of the school music lead	Georgia Dearden
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	Art Forms
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.

The music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play, perform, and evaluate. This is embedded in classroom activities alongside weekly singing assemblies. Through the music program Charanga, teachers are able to produce inclusive lessons for all children to access the musical curriculum in a fun and engaging way, further promoting a love of learning. Teachers deliver music lessons following the Charanga programme, designed specifically for the teaching of music in primary schools. Each unit follows the pattern of listen and respond; explore and learn; improvise; compose; perform own pieces. During these units all children will develop their proficiency on glockenspiel as they move through each year group and other instruments are introduced into the units as appropriate.

Children have a music lesson of a between 45 minutes planned half term blocks.

In previous years our whole school STEAM project was focused on 'I am a musician' and we looked at music through the lens of maths, science, art, engineering and technology. This was a wonderful experience, and we worked with our peri-Teacher as well as colleagues at Resilience Multi Academy Trust, who delivered sessions in science, art and engineering.

Training, run by Artforms was also accessed by the music leader to enhance their subject knowledge of how to develop music throughout the key stages, with an emphasis on composition and inclusion for all, with a particular focus on SEND.

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.

Children in year 3 learn to play the ukulele; this is fully funded by school. The lessons are taught via a peri from Artforms, but class teachers are part of the lessons developing their knowledge. Within these sessions the children learn to play on their own and as part of a group. They are taught musical notation and the language of music, and they develop their understanding of different rhythms and tempos.

Private violin, woodwind and guitar lessons are made available for parents who want their child to learn a further instrument from Year 3 to 6. This is provided by Artforms and delivered by peri-music Teachers. Children have the opportunity to perform in front of their peers and at events, for example Christmas concerts, in an assembly to showcase what they have learnt.

Lessons are offered to parents at a reduced cost, with some of the cost paid by the school.

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.

Children at Churwell access a weekly singing assembly. This is every Tuesday. Children sing songs linked to festivals, events and sing songs for pleasure and enjoyment.

Children in the early years sing songs in their classroom; these are linked to their learning as well as festivals, together with popular and well-known nursery rhymes.

Through assemblies in school the children are introduced to different genres of music each week. The music choice is from a range of cultures and time periods and allows the children to experience different types of music and discuss what they think and feel about the music.

Each year group, from Nursery to Year 6 performs a Christmas Concert to parents/carers. This is a combination of well-known songs/carols, alongside commercial music linked to the theme of Christmas.

Children in Year 6 also perform an end of year musical, where they get the chance to sing solos/duets, in groups and coral singing for their production.

All performances are free for parents/carers to attend.

Through Artforms, we ask the Teachers who work with children on instrument tuition, to play in assemblies so that children have a 'live' music experience.

The children also watch a live theatre show each year linked to a classical text. These performances include singing performances by the actors, and often have an audience participation element, where children in with the performance. This is fully funded by school.

Links with our wider Trust mean that primary children have worked with secondary pupils to collaborate on singing events. The children sang together when we became a Trust and a choir sang at a high school music event with older children.

Children have enjoyed a one off musical experience, for example a drummer visited school for a workshop, where all of the children in Year 5 performed together.

In the future

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

- Reinstate the end of year music concert for parents/carers to attend – this showcases music learning from children who have lessons in school and those that have private lessons
- Peri-Teacher to play their instruments in assemblies for children; so that the children experience live music and learning an instrument is promoted to the children
- Work with Artforms to promote music learning to the whole school community and opportunities after school, at the weekends and in the school holidays
- Work with Artforms to attend events that support musical learning that are taking place across the city
- Join whole Trust wide events – Big Sing Along and music concerts at our partner high schools

- Use of specialists to run sessions after school. Fund places for children, who ordinarily would find payment a barrier.