

Music development plan summary: [Whittington CE Primary School]

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/2026 – 2026/2027
Date this summary was published	Spring 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	Spring 2027
Name of the school music lead	Aidan Byrne
Name of local music hub	Severn Arts
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rock Steady Drumlove Worcester Ukulele Club I Sing Pop

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.

We currently have 1 hour of music delivered each week in lesson time. This is timetabled and mostly delivered by the class teacher. Our Class Teachers use Sing Up as a music scheme throughout school to deliver most of our lessons and use their model music curriculum. During these lessons, children are taught elements of music theory, are given opportunities to appraise music and are also given opportunities to perform using a variety of different instruments. We are now evaluating our use of Sing Up throughout the school and will work with teachers to ensure that the platform is used effectively. Sing up was introduced this Year following successful trials in Year 4 and Year 5.

In Year 3 and 4, the children benefit from a term of Ukulele tuition (delivered by Mr Byrne in Year 4 and a volunteer from Worcester Ukulele club in Year 3) and are taught

the basics of reading chord charts, playing a variety of chords and songs and are given the opportunity to perform to parents, carers and other children.

In Year 5 and 6, the children benefit from a term of keyboard tuition (delivered by a specialist tutor from Severn Arts) and are taught how to transfer the musical knowledge they have gained in previous years into a different instrument.

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.

Individual music lessons, funded by parents, are offered throughout the year. The children are given the opportunity to join a rock band through Rocksteady. This involves tuition on their chosen instrument of guitar, drums, keyboard, bass guitar or vocals. These sessions are delivered weekly during lessons and groups are alternated to avoid missing the same lesson every week. We are now reviewing the delivery of peripatetic music lessons in school to decide whether to reintroduce these.

Most weeks throughout the academic year feature a songs and praise collective worship. This involves the children being taught to sing and perform songs that have been carefully selected to fit in with our school vision and will often link to our values. The children are also exposed to music and given opportunities to sing and perform songs they have learnt during songs and praise during collective worship every school day. On a Tuesday, we have classroom worship which finishes with a performance of a song created by I Sing Pop. We work closely with I Sing Pop to learn and perform songs that are linked to our identity as a church school but are created specifically to be relatable to the children.

There is an opportunity to join our Young Voices choir each year and this involves learning several songs as part of a large group of children from KS2. After several months of practise, this then culminates in a performance opportunity at an arena in Birmingham.

We are launching a Ukulele club which will be a weekly after school club and will be open to players of all levels. The aim is to create an ensemble that will be able to perform at a concert in school to parents.

On a Friday, during lunchtime, the Headteacher joins the children on the playground with a sound system and plays songs that the children can sing along to. The children are encouraged to request songs that they enjoy. There is also a microphone for children to perform karaoke versions of songs.

Children in Years 3 and 4 are given the opportunity to take their ukuleles home in order to play at home. There are also performance opportunities available for children ages 7 and above through Severn Arts and these are promoted and encouraged in our school newsletter.

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 Whittington CE Primary School take part in weekly celebration assemblies in which they perform the whole school songs.

Music is also incorporated into lessons (not just class music lessons), class assemblies, Harvest, Christmas and Easter celebrations.

Each year group will also lead a collective worship in front of an audience which will involve singing and performing.

Key Stage 2 are given the opportunity to attend Young Voices and perform at an arena, this is always very well attended with 58 children attending in 2025 and 2026.

All year groups have a 'Musical Highlight'. This year these are:

EYFS - Music Festival (Summer Term)

Year 1 – Nativity

Year 2 – Nativity

Year 3 – Ukulele Concert

Year 4 – Choir service and Christmas Carol performance at a local retirement village.

Year 5 – Choir performance (Three Counties Festival 2025, 2026 TBC)

In the future

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

- Music will be focussed on children making progress in line with the model music curriculum. We are now embedding the vocabulary and content mapped out in the model music curriculum.
- We are currently building links within the local community and already have established a link with Worcester Ukulele club. We will be launching Ukulele after school clubs and have now launched Ukulele lessons in Year 3 and 4 as many children expressed a desire to learn guitar and this will be an excellent gateway.
- We are now reviewing our delivery of peripatetic music lessons and deciding whether to reintroduce these based on demand.
- Music will be focussed on having fun and we aim to encourage the desire to continue to play at home and beyond their lessons.
- We will establish opportunities for the children to listen to a further range of music from key periods during collective worship and will be re-establishing our featured artist board.
- We are focussing on building links with local and national music groups with a view to providing more focussed musical highlights for each year.
- Assessment is being reconsidered. One potential avenue is for a performance of the piece we are working on in each class to be shared on Class Dojo and our staff system at the end of each half term. This allows us to assess performance but also share this with parents and carers so they can see the progress of their child.
- We will be relaunching the musician of the month. This will be a monthly focus on musicians that we feel it is very important that the children are aware of from different time periods throughout history.