



KIRKBY STEPHEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

MUSIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN SUMMARY

2025 – 2026



This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-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, whilst taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#).

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	01-09-2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Claire Tunstall
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Alison Capstick
Name of local music hub	Cumbria Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

Curriculum music

This is what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music as part of the curriculum and how we achieve this.

CURRICULUM LESSONS - Our timetables allocate a minimum of 45 minutes per week for classroom music lessons. The full music curriculum booklet is available on our website.

CHARANGA - Years 1–6 follow the MMC units from Charanga, offering high-quality music experiences delivered by class teachers. Lessons take place in our dedicated music room, incorporating whole-class teaching with tuned percussion and music technology.

EYFS – In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), children experience music through a balance of teacher-led activities and opportunities for independent exploration, both indoors and outdoors, using a wide variety of instruments and sound makers. Music is embedded into daily learning, taught as an integral part of our topic-based curriculum, and is central to the specific area of Expressive Arts and Design (Development Matters, 2021).

We ensure that the musical aspects of children's learning are closely linked to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs).

LISTENING – All children experience a diverse range of music throughout the curriculum, further enriched by listening opportunities in assemblies and a themed piece each half term, tailored to their year group's topic.

SINGING ASSEMBLY – The whole school takes part in a 20 minute weekly singing assembly, supporting the development of vocal skills and working towards a range of performances throughout the year.

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.

PERIPATETIC TEACHING – Pupils in Years 3–6 have the opportunity to participate in peripatetic music lessons, which take place in our dedicated music room and can be delivered either one-to-one or in small groups. Currently, lessons are offered in keyboard and guitar. Pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium funding are actively encouraged to take part, with the cost of lessons fully covered by the school.

KIRKBY STEPHEN YOUNG VOICES – The choir rehearses after school on Tuesdays and is open to Key Stage 2 pupils. Members sing a variety of songs accompanied by a pianist. Participation is free of charge.

UKS2 EASTER CHOIR – Lunchtime sessions are provided for pupils to learn part-songs for the Easter service.

UKS2 BAND (SPRING TERM) – An after-school ensemble brings together vocals, keyboards, guitars, electric guitars, bass, and drums, led by our highly experienced peripatetic music teacher.

KIRKBY STEPHEN BRASS BAND – The school maintains strong links with the local brass band, who frequently visit to work with pupils. They offer Key Stage 2 children the opportunity to join the band, providing both the instrument and free tuition.

SCHOOL CLUSTER ENRICHMENT EVENT – Each year, between two and four pupils are invited to participate in the local cluster music enrichment event. This provides them with the opportunity to play their instruments alongside other enthusiastic musicians and to explore new instruments and styles of music.

CHRISTMAS SOLO/SMALL GROUP SINGING - Year 6 pupils are invited to take part in extracurricular sessions to prepare a performance of *Once in Royal David's City* for the Christmas church service.

Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts, shows, and trips. Some events children participate in and others they enjoy being part of the audience.

IN SCHOOL

SINGING ASSEMBLY – The whole school takes part in a 20 minute weekly singing assembly, supporting the development of vocal skills and working towards a range of performances/events throughout the year.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES – Each class performs as part of their termly assembly, which often includes music and/or dance. These occasions provide valuable performance opportunities for pupils, while the rest of the school participate as the audience.

KS1 NATIVITY MUSICAL – All EYFS and Key Stage 1 pupils take part, while Key Stage 2 pupils enjoy the experience as the audience.

YEAR 6 SUMMER MUSICAL – All Year 6 pupils participate, while the rest of the school enjoy the experience as the audience.

SPRING AND SUMMER PERIPATETIC MUSIC CONCERTS – Key Stage 2 pupils who receive weekly peripatetic music lessons have the opportunity to perform, while the rest of the school enjoy the performances as the audience.

KIRKBY STEPHEN BRASS BAND ASSEMBLIES – Pupils enjoy listening to the band members, and occasionally, a small number are invited to participate and experience playing the instruments.

MUSIC LISTENING/SINGING WITHIN THE CLASSROOMS – Music is also used to support other curriculum areas, including History, Geography, Maths, and PSHE, as well as providing background for Art, Writing, and Dance in PE.

MUSIC LISTENING IN ASSEMBLIES – A diverse range of music is played for pupils to enjoy as they enter and exit assemblies.

FRIDAY PLAYGROUND MUSIC – The whole school enjoys music in the playground on Friday lunchtimes, encouraging a wide range of pupils to sing and dance to their favourite pieces.

KIRKBY STEPHEN YOUNG VOICES – The Young Voices choir performs for the whole school at least twice a year.

OUT OF SCHOOL

CHURCH SERVICES – Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Leavers – The whole school participates and enjoys music both as performers and as an audience, with opportunities for solo, group, and whole-school performances

CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING – Key Stage 2 classes visit local venues, including several retirement homes, the Co-op and Westmorland Services, with each class visiting at least one location.

SINGING CELEBRATION – A summer event celebrates all the songs enjoyed throughout the year, featuring whole-school participation and audience opportunities for pupils. Parents, carers, and members of the local community are also encouraged to join in, creating an uplifting musical event.

In the future

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

- To provide more opportunities to enjoy live music as an audience.
- Invite local musicians to visit and perform for us, explaining their journey.
- Forge links with KSGS music department to obtain performances from KSGS Students showing possible progression of subject.
- Encourage Kirkby Stephen Brass Band to keep visiting and inspire pupils to consider taking up lessons.
- To develop the use of teacher assessment at planned points throughout the year using a variety of methods (video, audio, written etc.) to track pupil progress.
- Introduce further whole-class ensemble projects.
- To develop/formally plan listening in assembly.
- Link music to wellbeing.

Further information

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.

The local [music hub](#) should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.