

Music development plan summary: Oakhill Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	14.10.25
Date this summary will be reviewed	14.10.26
Name of the school music lead	Melanie Fox-Crowther
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Pete Dawes
Name of local music hub	Stoke-on-Trent City Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady

Part A: Curriculum music

At Oakhill Primary School, Music is a highly valued part of our curriculum. Our teachers use the Charanga Model Music Scheme to deliver exciting, engaging and progressive music lessons every week. An overview of this plan is here [English Model Music Curriculum Scheme/Schemes and Scheme Builder Overview/Home – Stoke-on-Trent City Music Service \(charanga.com\)](#). This shows the six half termly units that we deliver as well as a lesson by lesson breakdown to our children in Key Stages 1 and 2. In the EYFS music plays an integral part in supporting children's learning as they learn various rhymes, songs and dances. Musical instruments are available for the children to play.

The Charanga Model Music Scheme allows our children to learn how to sing, play the glockenspiel and/or recorder and how to improvise and compose their own music piece (either individually or part of an ensemble). The scheme ensures that our staff are able to pick out the most crucial pieces of musical knowledge and deliver those in small, incremental and manageable steps. The scheme, combined with each teachers understanding of every child in their class, ensures that SEND children excel and thrive in Music lessons due to the accessibility of the Charanga Model Music scheme. Teachers will also make any reasonable adjustments in class based on a child's particular needs.

Our music curriculum allows:

- Pupils to develop their performance skills through learning to play tuned and untuned instruments, singing a variety of songs and rehearsing and performing with others.
- Pupils to develop their composing skills through creating musical patterns and exploring and organising sounds and learning to record these in a variety of ways.
 - Pupils to learn to analyse and compare sounds, explore ideas and make improvements to their work, building on their appraising skills.
- Pupils to learn to listen with increased concentration to internalise and recall sounds.

Part B: Co-curricular music

We have a school choir (which is free for children to join) and is for children in Years 2 – 6. It is led by school staff and very popular with our children. The choir sometimes perform shows to people in the local hospital and nursing homes. They sing a wide variety of songs from hymns and pop songs to Christmas carols.

A small number of looked after children have guitar lessons and this has proven to very beneficial to their mental health and self-confidence. We have an external company called Rocksteady that come to school and parents pay for their child to join this provision. Here they learn to play the drums, guitar, bass or learn to sing for half an hour every week. As part of the Rocksteady lesson, the children are assessed and can earn an Ofqual-regulated music qualification, accredited by Trinity College London.

Part C: Musical experiences

Every half term, the children vote for a different assembly song (from a variety of choices that link with our team values). They then practice the song in our weekly (class-based) singing assembly so that when we come together as a school for our whole school celebration assembly, the whole school sing together. This gives the children the chance to listen to different types of music and then make decisions on their own preference.

At Oakhill our vision is to develop the whole child. To increase the cultural capital, our Music Lead has created a 'song a day' activity. Everyday the children will listen to a different song from a different genre, culture, band or artist. This has been instrumental in helping to foster a wider appreciation of music in our children as well as create a discussion point between children and staff.

The whole school watch our Rocksteady bands perform at least three times a year and this has proved popular. We also have a Christmas sing along concert which the children enjoy.

We have forged links with the New Vic Theatre, and they come into school to complete musical workshops with our EYFS. The children in Key Stage 2 visit one of our local theatres to watch a live performance, whilst Key Stage 1 have a touring company come into school to perform for them.

We have also utilised free workshops by the Halle Orchestra and some of Key Stage 2 visited the local theatre to watch a Halle Orchestra performance.

In the future

This academic year is our second year of implementing the Charanga Model Music Curriculum Scheme. Embedding this scheme over the next 1-2 years is one of our curriculum priorities and our Music subject lead will take an active role in supporting staff to develop their confidence and with additional resources to Charanga, if needed. Our Music subject leader is continuing to look at forging links with local musical groups to allow our children to see, hear and experience live music to help develop their cultural capital.