

Music development plan summary: Vicar's Green 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	Angela Waters
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Ealing Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Ealing Schools Music Association

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

Across the school, timetabled music lessons with three different music specialists take place weekly. There are also weekly singing assemblies for KS1 and KS2 with music specialists/the music lead.

Nursery

Expressive Arts and Design. Music is embedded into the curriculum in Early Years. Pupils learn to sing and say traditional nursery rhymes. They also have a 30 min session weekly with a music specialist 10 weeks a term, learning simple songs, moving to music, using untuned percussion, etc.

Reception

They have a 30 min session weekly with a music specialist, 10 weeks a term. Focus on singing, clapping to the beat, moving to music, using untuned percussion to create different dynamics, effects, etc. Pupils learn to sing and say traditional nursery rhymes. The songs they learn are often themed and interwoven with classroom subjects.

KS1

They have a 30 minute session weekly with a music specialist, 10 weeks a term, following the Model Music Curriculum Scheme on Charanga.

They also attend a weekly singing assembly with a music specialist.

Children learn to sing as a class creatively and expressively, following a conductor. This includes learning to sing rounds in up to three parts and singing simple harmonies.

They practise moving and clapping to the beat and playing untuned percussion rhythmically. They compose their own short rhythms.

They regularly listen to music and evaluate it, and are able to speak about music using some of the musical vocabulary they have learnt.

KS2

Pupils have weekly instrumental lessons with music specialists, for 10 weeks a term.

In Year 3, pupils learn the recorder with this music specialist across the three terms (45 min lessons). They also do a music study unit, focusing on Peter and the Wolf in Autumn term and learning about the different instruments of the orchestra.

In Years 4, 5 and 6, pupils learn with the recorder teacher for two terms (45 min lessons), and also do a term's Djembe drumming each, led by a specialist from EMS (1 hr lessons).

During long terms, i.e. Autumn and Summer, class teachers supplement these lessons, exploring other areas of the music curriculum, using Charanga in order to listen to and appraise different styles of music. They focus on areas such as composition, using resources on Charanga and Purple Mash in order to compose using music programming tools (Charanga Quick Beats, Purple Mash 2Beat, 2Sequence, Busy Beats).

Part B: Co-curricular music

We offer weekly guitar lessons (a paid club). This is now in its second year. It is open to 10 pupils in Years 4 and 5. Children apply to sign up and their names are chosen from a hat. Priority is given to those who wish to continue from a previous year so that they can make progress.

Children in KS2 can audition to join our two school choirs (split by age). We run this as a gifted and talented opportunity so that all children in the club can enjoy singing with others of a good ability, and develop their singing beyond that which is achieved in singing assemblies or lessons. There are spaces for about 20 children per choir.

Part C: Musical experiences

Children have multiple musical experiences throughout the year. Nursery and Reception put on Christmas performances, which include plenty of singing. Every year group from Year 1 to Year 6 puts on two class assemblies/performances per year. These include nativity plays/musicals in Year 2 and a production in Year 6. As part of these assemblies music is always included, with singing expected to be an integral part of performance. Parents are always invited to attend these events, and dress rehearsals are put on for other classes in school too.

There are also three Djembe drumming concerts per year, one per term, with different year groups taking the lead on each occasion. As part of these we also include singing and performances on the recorder.

Our choir frequently perform, both in school for end of term assemblies and also for a range of events, e.g.

- During the Winter Fair
- ESMA (Ealing Schools' Music Association) concerts at St Barnabas with other schools every Christmas and May. (Parents are charged a nominal entrance fee, ranging from £2 - £4.
- Occasional additional events, e.g. in the past two years we have taken part in EMS's Ealing to Broadway and a Christmas concert with Questors Choir.

There are additional opportunities for recorder and guitar performances, e.g. Year 6 perform some Christmas tunes for the Winter Fair and our guitar club will also be performing for the first time this year.

Each year, we try to send Years 2 and 5 to watch the London Philharmonic Orchestra in their specially put on KS1 and KS2 concerts. We have to watch for the email and apply the same day! We have successfully sent Year 5 for the last few years and have already booked Year 2 to attend this year. Costs are minimal and voluntary, at £3 per child.

We partake in a range of other musical opportunities as/when they are offered or come up. In recent years we have had the Mozartists come in to do workshops, as well as London Youth Choir. We also had the RAF band come and perform for us a couple of years ago.

Every year, children are invited to show off their individual ability in Vicar's Green's Got Talent, which runs throughout the Summer Fair, on stage and with microphones, etc. In recent years, in addition to singing, we have also enjoyed fabulous performances on the drums and piano.

In the future

In the future we would like to:

- Take part in the Young Voices concerts
- Raise the profile of composers through events such as a music week or 'composer of the month'