



# Music development plan summary: Northwood Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	G Park & K Freeman
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	R. Tapner
Name of local music hub	Durham Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

- Music is taught through both **discrete lessons** and **whole school singing and performing events**. When children sing – they are taught to sing. This learning takes place from Early Years and right through school. This is supported by teaching staff through weekly singing assemblies.
- Children in Early Years sing and engage with music **every day**.
- We have selected Charanga as a basis for our music curriculum. This was chosen for its approach and thought around its progression in knowledge across a range of musical genres. It meets the demands of the national curriculum.
- Each unit of work comprises of the strands of musical learning which correspond with the national curriculum:
  - Listening & appraising
  - Signing
  - Playing instruments
  - Improvisation
  - Composition
  - Performing

- These are built throughout the curriculum to ensure pupils develop their engagement with, and knowledge of, music over time.
- Music at Northwood is not just for those with a musical talent; all children appraise, compose and perform.
- We use external providers to deliver more specialist provision when learning certain instruments such as ukulele.

## 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.

At Northwood, we provide multiple opportunities outside of the directed music curriculum that children are able to participate in.

### **Additional Instrument Tuition**

- We have a partnership with Durham Music service who attend weekly to deliver specialist music services. This includes the specialist teaching of violin, and clarinet.

### **Singing Assemblies**

- Weekly singing assemblies take place where children have further opportunities to listen, appraise and sing a variety of songs. The music chosen in these assemblies has a structured approach – with questions and whole staff input. The intention is to embed the impact and role music has on our daily lives.

### **Weekly Assemblies**

- During our weekly celebration and PSHE assemblies, children enter and exit to music. The music chosen in these assemblies also has a structured approach but is centred around exposing children to classical music, building on their knowledge of different composers and a variety of instruments. Within these assemblies, children have further opportunities to listen to, and appraise the music they are hearing.

## 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.

### **Performances**

Each year group has the opportunity to perform to an audience and includes at least two songs to perform. In addition to this, children who have had additional music tuition have a variety of opportunities to showcase their talents through performances to their peers and to parents.

To further enrich the musical experiences children at Northwood, have access to, some year groups have opportunities to attend Theatre Shows, Pantomimes or experience musical taster days.

**Reception:** Early Years Christmas Nativity

**Year 1:** Year 1/Year 2 Christmas Performance

**Year 2:** Year 1/Year 2 Christmas Performance

**Year 3:** Year 3/Year 4 Christmas Performance; Ukulele Performance

**Year 4:** Year 3/Year 4 Christmas Performance

**Year 5:** Year 5/Year 6 Christmas Concert at The Well Church

**Year 6:** Year 5/Year 6 Christmas Concert at The Well Church; Year 6 Leavers Assembly; Theatre Show & or Pantomime

**Violin:** Christmas Performance; End of Year Performance

**Clarinet:** End of Year Performance

## In the future

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

- We will seek live performance opportunities across the year as they arise: either for classes/year groups to visit performance spaces to listen to live music or for musicians to visit us.
- We will work with Durham Music Service to increase children's engagement with music tuition
- To assess the effectiveness of our music curriculum and ensure any changes are made to enhance the provision children receive in music.

## Further information

For further information about Durham Music Service, see their website: [Durham Music](#)

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 support beyond the school. [Music education: information for parents and young people - GOV.UK](#)