

# Music development plan summary: Highwood Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/2026
Date this summary was published	09/2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	09/2026
Name of the school music leads	Greta Woodward and James Edwards
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Herts Music Service ( HMS)
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.

At Highwood Primary School, we ensure that our Music planning follows a clear progression of skills and ensures that there is full coverage of the National Music programmes of study. Where possible, we aim to make links to other subjects to help children make further connections and developing their learning. We use a combination of music schemes, such as National Oak Academy, Sing up and BBC Ten pieces to teach Music to our pupils. Every year group focuses on different units throughout the year, pupils will listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. Every unit will be adapted to ensure every child can access and benefit from the learning.

The curriculum for Music can be viewed in the following link:

<https://highwood.herts.sch.uk/curriculum/music/>

Pupils are allocated one hour of music per week.

We hold weekly singing assemblies for all children.

Our music curriculum is accessible to all pupils regardless of academic ability. We appreciate that some pupils have SEND needs or specific sensory needs. We take this into account and strategies are put in place for individual pupils to meet their specific needs. Ear defenders are provided for pupils requiring them within school.

## 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.

Highwood offers music lessons through the Live Music company. The service offers 1:1 or small group lessons for piano and guitar.

Our pupils learn to play an instrument, either guitar or piano through 1:1 teaching. These are paid for opportunities by parent/ carers. Pupils' recipient of pupil premium and who come from disadvantaged backgrounds receive a subsidy. Pupils can take various exams and qualifications in their instruments, including Grade Exams.

Furthermore, we have a choir. This is an enrichment opportunity and is an after-school club. All pupils in key stage two can attend. There is no charge.

We work closely with Herts Music Service and have been able to access whole class musical instrumental teaching. Pupils have had an opportunity to learn to play the trombone and ukulele.

## 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.

There are numerous opportunities for pupils to perform. Each class presents a class sharing assembly through the year, which includes performing a song to the school and to their parents.

We hold special events where pupils will sing and play instruments. These include Harvest, Christmas and end of year performances. Pupils have also visited the local church for a Christmas service and sang a variety of carols and festive songs.

This year the Choir have performed at the Christmas Fair on behalf of Friends of Highwood PTA.

There has also been a Music Festival in the spring term, where pupils sang and played a variety of instruments. We received positive feedback from parent/ carers.

The choir attended a trip to Purcell School. They were inspired by the Year 11 and 12 students who performed to them.

## In the future

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

To further raise the profile of Music at Highwood Primary, external visits from musicians and companies will be encouraged. We want to maximise the engagement of music.

We will apply for grants where pupils can access instrumental teaching free or at a subsidy. Proactively try to find additional funding for music e.g. Local charities, or organisations.

We will review our music curriculum identified in the Foundation Stage Framework (2014) and National Curriculum.

We will continue to develop the choir so pupils can build their confidence in performing.

We will create further opportunities for our musicians to perform to an audience.

We will continue to work collaboratively with Herts Music Service.

Highwood Primary School plans to expand the range of opportunities for all pupils to participate in school trips as an audience in music.

## Further information (optional)

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.