

Music development plan summary: Heatherside Junior School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs R Field
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for overall curriculum	Mrs S Sarney
Name of local music hub	Hampshire Music Service

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 by a music specialist during PPA afternoons in a well-resourced, dedicated music room. Each class has three one-hour music lessons over a four-week period.

Our music curriculum has been planned using the National Curriculum, Model Music Curriculum and resources and advice from Hampshire Music Service.

During lesson time, all children learn to sing. The songs chosen are linked to the unit of work being studied and are at the appropriate level of challenge for each year group.

Throughout the school, children work on developing their listening skills, ability to write and read music, singing, playing instruments, improvising and composing. Every lesson is practical and children have the opportunity to use a wide range of untuned and tuned percussion instruments, recorders, ukuleles and music technology. They learn about different musical genres such as Chinese music, Big bands and Steel pan drumming.

Children learn about the music dimensions and are encouraged to use musical vocabulary. They learn in pairs, small groups and through whole-class ensemble teaching. In Years 3

and 4, children will learn to play the recorder. In Years 5 and 6, children will learn to play the ukulele. In addition, in Year 5, children are taught to play a djembe drum and Year 6 children take part in a 6-week Hampshire Music Service instrumental project, taught by a specialist musician. Lessons in the past have included djembe drumming, samba instruments and mini steel pan drums. All children regularly perform to their peers in class. Children with SEND are fully included in the music curriculum; either through adapted tasks, additional adult support or the use of resources and aids, such as headphones.

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.

All children can join the school choir which rehearses weekly before school.

Outside of lesson time, there is a weekly beginner recorder group for children in all year groups. In addition, there is a weekly improver recorder group. A child learning any instrument has the opportunity to play in a school ensemble which rehearses weekly. Parents are charged for these clubs.

There are weekly drumming and violin/viola/cello lessons for small groups. Tuition includes preparing children for ABRSM Music exams. Parents are charged for these lessons. The tuition is subsidised for children eligible for pupil premium.

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 is a weekly singing assembly for all year groups. The focus is on enjoyment, being part of a massed choir and developing musicianship. Age-appropriate, high-quality songs are chosen from the Sing Up website and include some songs in different languages. During the assembly, children are exposed to music from a range of genres, historical periods, music from different places and different instrumental sounds. Throughout the year, children sing in other school assemblies and events, such as performing at local charity events, Christmas Fair, local school network concerts or performing and entertaining residents at a Care home.

The recorder groups and instrumental ensemble are given the opportunity to perform in assemblies at different times throughout the year.

In Years 3, 4, and 5, children sing during year group Christmas presentations to parents.

Year 4 children take part in an Anglo-Saxon assembly in the Spring term and Year 6 children perform in a Christmas production. In both cases, there is a chorus for children and the opportunity to perform in a band of percussion instruments to accompany the songs. As well as performing to their parents, children across the school watch the performances.

In the Spring term 2026, the ensemble performed in a Spring Concert at Calthorpe Park School along with other local schools and some Calthorpe Park students. The choir took part in a performance at Court Moor School along with other local schools and some Court Moor students. This will happen again in the academic year 26-27.

During the Summer term, choir members sing at the summer fair. The performance is in collaboration with Heatherside Infant school choir.

There is also a music concert in the summer term for parents. Performances include the choir, recorder groups, ensemble and string and drum soloists.

In January 2027, choir members will take part in the Young Voices performance held at the O2 in London. The event will include professional performances by singers and musicians.

The school will continue to work with Hampshire Music Service to provide further musical experiences during the year and explore how gaining the Music Mark could allow for further CPD opportunities for staff or enable further collaboration between the local network of schools.

In the future

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

- To continue to build on our music progress by continuously re-evaluating the curriculum when there are changes in the National Curriculum and model music curriculum.
- To continue to provide opportunities for children to watch live performances.
- To explore further availability of both instrumental tuition outside of curriculum time.
- To explore the benefits of achieving Music Mark accreditation, with a focus on expanding high-quality CPD opportunities for staff and strengthening collaboration and resource-sharing within the local network of schools.