

Music Development Plan Summary: Waltham St Lawrence Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic Year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	September
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the School Music Lead	Trudy Wiseman
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of Local Music Hub	Berkshire Music Trust
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 Waltham St Lawrence Primary School, we value Music. Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity and we aim for all of our children to develop the self-confidence, skills, knowledge and understanding to develop a lifelong love of music, whilst also providing a secure foundation that enables them to take music further should they wish to.

We have timetabled music lessons in all year groups. We use the Charanga Music Scheme for our lessons aligned to the National Curriculum for Music. We have refined the Music Scheme to make it bespoke to WSL.

Our aim is for all our children to have equality of access in playing instruments and we have carefully sequenced our curriculum to enable opportunities for all children to learn to play a selected range of instruments such as recorder, ukelele or fife, alongside being able to critically engage with music by listening, composing and singing, using a broad range of musical traditions.

How we teach music at WSL

We have carefully refined our curriculum using 'Charanga' resources as a basis for teaching. Alongside the 'Charanga' units of work, the children will also all have the opportunity to learn an instrument, such as the ukulele, recorder or fife, for two terms while in the Year 3/4 mixed class. This is free to all children. In addition, all children take part in a weekly whole school singing assembly and have other opportunities for music throughout the week in their class. Please see our Music Curriculum Overview for details, including the progression of key knowledge and skills expected from Year 3 to Year 6.

We link with our local music partner, Berkshire Music Trust to ensure we are teaching to the highest of standards. BMT provides opportunities for workshops and training to support the teaching of music, as does 'Charanga'.

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.

We invite music groups to play instruments to the whole school, inspiring children to take up lessons. We have a peripatetic teacher who runs weekly group or individual guitar and ukulele lessons. Children taking up this opportunity, will be performing in concerts to the school, and to parents, from Term 2 onwards.

Children have opportunities to perform and sing in school each year in events such as the annual Harvest Festival Service and Christingle Service in the Parish Church.

KS1 put on an annual Nativity to parents as part of the Christmas celebration and KS2 perform in an end of year production in the final term. Class Assemblies are also held for parents, in Terms 3 and 4. All of these performances give our children many opportunities to showcase their talents.

We use 'Singup' as a resource for our singing assemblies and sometimes as an additional resource for teaching.

In addition, our staff value and appreciate music and give children further opportunities to appreciate music or use music as a background to help children focus on tasks in class. We also use music as a part of our daily Silent Sitting. This helps children to keep calm and offers a quiet moment for reflection after an active lunch hour. The Silent Sitting with different types of music also helps children increase their attention span, improve memory and concentration, promotes developments of intuition and develop inner peace.

We regularly sign-post opportunities and events through the Berkshire Music Trust via our newsletter.

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.

At WSL, musical experiences are an integral part of school life! Weekly Singing Assemblies are fun, energetic and are a great way to celebrate events as well as learning some of the technical aspects surrounding music. Every Celebration Assembly on Friday has a music background, or children singing our Values Songs, as we feel it bonds our school community together. Also, children learning instruments outside of school will sometimes play as the children enter and exit the hall for the Assembly. This is an excellent opportunity for them to become accustomed to performing to an audience without it being too daunting!

In EYFS and KS1, children will take part in a Christmas Production, where they are expected to sing and learn many songs off by heart. In KS2, children will all take part in their end of year performance – which includes whole group, small groups, 2-part singing and many solo opportunities. Each year, we take part in the Summer Village Festival and the Choir, made up of children from all year groups, will sing at this event.

We also organise visiting groups, such as Image Theatre, to perform involving children acting and singing. Children have other opportunities to hear live music throughout the year.

We regularly engage with the Berkshire Music Trust to provide access to further opportunities as they arise.

In the future

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

Ensure a wide range of instruments can be used in the lessons and our curriculum.

Utilise further CPD opportunities for teachers through BMT so that our music appreciation ensures a variety of music and genres are listened to and discussed.

Develop teachers' confidence with musical elements and teaching children how to listen and appreciate a piece of music, as well as focusing on creative composing.

Showcase the excellent progress of our pupils by recording performances.

Work closely in partnership with Berkshire Music Trust to identify further opportunities for individual music tuition.

We have confirmed music lessons with Rockadamy, starting in Term 2, November 2025.

Expand our opportunities for performances in the local community- e.g. choir singing at local 3Gs, as we did before Covid.

Ensure Music Curriculum is consistently implemented and embedded.

Introduction of further whole-class ensemble projects delivered by a music specialist.

Further develop performance opportunities for our young musicians throughout the school year.

Further develop engagement in extra-curricular music for Pupil Premium and SEND children.

Develop a dedicated music teaching space for use by ensembles and class curriculum lessons.

Further information (optional)

Use this space to provide any further information about your school's music development plan, including links to your local music hub partners, other local music education organisations and contacts.

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.

Your local [music hub](#) should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.

If your school is part of a multi-academy trust with a trust-wide music development plan, you may also want to include a link to any published information on this plan.