

Music Development Plan Summary

Ambleside CE Primary School



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2023 to 2024
Date this summary was published	August 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	August 2025
Name of the school music lead	Alison Broom
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	Cumbria Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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.

In January 2024, the school moved away from the Charanga scheme onto a new curriculum. Our new music curriculum has been purposefully built around the principles of evidence-led practice. This is to ensure that there is a focus on high-quality development of children as musicians.

The curriculum is carefully designed to build pupils' musical knowledge and develop their competency and confidence as musicians. Classes study a new block each half-term with each block including the study of significant musicians and musical works, with the intention of exposing pupils to a wide range of music that will inspire them and connect them to the world around them.

In the children's weekly, one-hour lessons in class, core areas of study include singing, listening and appraising, composing and improvising and instrumental performance. These are built cumulatively throughout the curriculum to ensure that all pupils develop

their engagement with, and knowledge of, music over time. This includes a focus on learning to play a range of instruments confidently.

Our music lessons also have a strong emphasis on the language that pupils need to explore their own musicality. This is carefully and deliberately planned so that pupils revisit and embed this knowledge over time.

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.

Outside of what is taught in lessons, the school offers instrumental tuition in piano and guitar. One-to-one lessons are paid for by parents with children from vulnerable groups supported by the Pupil Premium grant and the local Kelsick Trust.

Within music lessons children are taught how to play the recorder, a range of untuned percussion, glockenspiels, ukeles and keyboards.

All children take part in our weekly singing practice and children in Key Stage 2 have the opportunity to join the school choir and take part in special performances.

During the academic year 2023 – 2024, our pupils who have been learning how to play the piano all did performances to the school to showcase what they had achieved.

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.

Singing takes place in collective worship every day and year groups, along with the school choir, have the opportunity to perform songs that they have learnt in church. During the academic year 2023 – 2024, the children performed in church at Harvest, Christmas, Easter and for the special D-Day commemoration service.

All year groups take part in musical performances every year. In December 2023, our Key Stage 1 and Early Years children performed a musical nativity for their friends and family and, in July 2024, our Key Stage 2 children put on a musical performance of 'The Jungle Book'. Again, during the academic year 2024-2025, all classes will put on a musical production for their families and friends to come along and watch.

One of the highlights of the year for our children in Key Stage 2 is the opportunity to take part in 'Young Voices'. This year over 40 pupils travelled down to the Manchester Arena and performed with up to 9000 other young voices in a choir made up of children

from all over the North West of England. 'Young Voices' gave the children the chance to perform in a large venue, work alongside professional musicians and experience the fun and exhilaration that performing in a large, musical ensemble can bring. The school will be participating in 'Young Voices again in early 2025.

We are also fortunate to have developed a link with 'Lake District Music'; an organisation that brings an array of talented musicians to our doorstep. During the summer term, our pupils were able to interview, and listen to, a brass quintet during their rehearsals for a performance in our neighbouring parish church. They also attended a live performance by a professional string quartet.

During the academic year 2024-2025, we will be welcoming into school a group of musicians from Chethams School of Music, Manchester along with developing further links with 'Lake District Music'. The visit from students from Chethams is to inspire more children to take up learning a musical instrument and to give the children another opportunity to hear live music performed and to meet the musicians to talk about their experiences of learning a musical instrument and performing.

In the future

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

In the academic year 2024 – 2025, we aim to further enhance our music provision by setting up musical ensembles. (Timetabling these has been a challenge during this academic year.) We are keen to have more regular timetabled rehearsal time for our school choir and a recorder group.

Whilst years 5 and 6 were able to attend a live West End show and most Key Stage 2 children attended 'Young Voices' in 2024, we aim to provide all year groups in the school with an opportunity to experience a live performance during the next academic year (2024 – 2025).

Further information

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.