

Music Development Plan Summary

Dodford First School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Charlotte Underhill
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Severn Arts
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.

As a school, we value music and the contribution this can make to the wide development of a child. We want our pupils to enjoy music and encourage them to develop a love of music.

At Dodford First School music is taught in class every week. We follow the National Curriculum and have adapted the Charanga scheme to create a be-spoke long-term plan for our school. Lessons are a minimum of 40 minutes long. Our teachers make relevant adjustments to ensure that music is inclusive and accessible for all our learners.

The music scheme we use, Charanga, progressively introduces our children to music from all around the world, across the generations and teaches the children to respect and appreciate music of all traditions and customs. The history and cultural context of music is explored within music lessons and assemblies.

Charanga allows our staff to deliver the music curriculum with confidence and increasing knowledge. It offers a spiral curriculum so through all units the children are developing their musical skills, exploring and playing instruments and developing their singing voice.

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Musical learning is further supplemented by weekly whole school singing and listening appreciation assembly which last for 20 minutes.

We are a small school with mixed year group classes and plan our curriculum using a two-year rolling programme. During their time in KS2 class pupils will be given the opportunity to learn to play an instrument by participating in the FAME project (First Access Music). This is run by a music tutor from our local music hub Severn Arts. The project culminates with an opportunity to perform in a short concert to the school community. Pupils in KS2 are also offered the opportunity to be part of the choir in the Young Voices Concert held at the local arena in Birmingham.

Part B: Extra-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 Dodford First School, we currently offer individual tuition for pupils to learn the piano. Lessons are funded by parents; however, for pupils who are eligible for Pupil Premium, these lessons can be funded through the Pupil Premium provision, helping to ensure that all pupils have access to high-quality musical opportunities.

We also provide opportunities for pupils to participate in group music tuition through Rock Steady, where pupils can learn and develop practical skills through playing together in a band. This provides children with opportunities to develop their musicianship, confidence, teamwork and performance skills while experiencing the enjoyment of making music collaboratively.

Our school choir now runs weekly, providing pupils with regular opportunities to develop their singing, listening and performance skills. The choir performs at a range of school and community events, including the church carol concert and village fete, enabling pupils to share their musical achievements with the wider community.

We are supported by our local music hub, Severn Arts, which provides opportunities, guidance and expertise to further enhance music provision across the school.

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.

We believe that music should be at the heart of learning, so all children have access to a variety of experiences across the year. Musical experiences planned for this academic year:

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- Weekly whole-school singing assemblies where all children participate in learning and singing both traditional and modern songs.
- 'Musician of the Week', pupils will be introduced to a musician each week during listening appreciation time in the weekly singing assembly. This music will be shared when pupils enter and leave assembly. Charanga listening calendar will be used to ensure a high-quality range of songs are introduced.
- The whole school will participate in our Harvest Festival which takes part at the local church in the village. Pupils perform to families and friends of the school.
- Our Christmas Nativity takes place each year at the local church. All classes contribute to our production which includes singing.
- Pupils will prepare and perform class assemblies for parents and peers that include singing and/or use of musical instruments.
- Year 4 perform in their leavers service which is an end of year celebration watched by parents and held at the local village hall.
- Our KS2 class will take part in the FAME project. All pupils will learn to play the Ukulele during weekly class lessons. There will be an opportunity to perform in a short concert to the school community to celebrate the end of the project.
- Pupils in KS2 will be offered the opportunity to participate in the Young Voices Concert at Birmingham arena alongside other local schools.
- Pupils learning piano with our piano teacher are given the opportunity to perform a piano recital to an audience in the summer term.
- Pupils will enjoy an online interactive pantomime performed by Eve Productions as part of our Christmas celebrations. In alternate years, pupils will visit a local theatre to experience a live pantomime, providing opportunities to enjoy and engage with live performance.
- Our school choir will perform at the local church fete and Christmas Carol service.
- Our Year 4 pupils take part in a music morning as a transition event at our local middle school. They prepare a song to perform and have the opportunity to watch performances by other local pupils/schools.

In the future

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

2027-2028

- The school will develop a two-year programme of musical experiences to ensure pupils have a broad range of opportunities to experience and engage with music beyond the classroom. This may include visits to venues such as Birmingham Symphony Hall to hear a live orchestra, as well

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as opportunities for professional musicians to visit the school and deliver workshops and performances.

- The school will develop staff confidence and subject knowledge in delivering the music curriculum through relevant CPD opportunities, including training and support offered through Charanga Music School.
- A dedicated music budget will be allocated to purchase and maintain a range of musical instruments, with a particular focus on improving the quality and provision of percussion instruments for use during class music lessons.
- The school will develop links with other local first schools to create opportunities for pupils to collaborate musically, share performances and celebrate their musical achievements with a wider community.