

Music Development Plan

Wrenthorpe Academy

2025 - 2026



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Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 – 2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Adam Stockhill
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Wakefield
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.

Our music curriculum is planned to match the aims outlined in the National Curriculum. The curriculum's central aim is for children to become better musicians, which means being better performers, better composers and more sophisticated listeners.

Our music lessons are delivered through the Charanga Scheme (designed and provided by Wakefield Music Services), making use of its Model Music Curriculum, which has been adapted to accommodate our two-year rolling programme.

Music is taught for one hour every week across all classes at Wrenthorpe Academy. In addition to the Charanga Music Scheme, children in years 5 and 6 are also provided with the opportunity to learn recorders and all children in years 3 and 4 receive a term of Djembe lessons, provided by Wakefield Music Services – Wider Opportunities.

In addition to weekly music lessons, there are a number of music links across the curriculum. Examples include learning times tables in maths, vocabulary in languages and movement in dance.

Children have regular opportunities to perform. They take part in class assemblies, Christmas carol concerts (KS2) Nativity performances (EYFS/KS1) and end of year shows (year 6).

The whole school attends a weekly music assembly where they learn a variety of songs as well as learning about music history, listening and appraising and taking part in body percussion activities.

Our music curriculum map and intent can be found on our website.

Our SEND children can access the same music lessons as the rest of the class by making appropriate adaptations. Teachers ensure these children are well-supported and are able to differentiate their lessons appropriately, for example, using the “I do, you do” teaching approach (echoing) to support their accuracy. Charanga has been carefully designed to ensure that all children can access the lessons at their own level: there are multiple instrumental parts of differing levels of difficulty for each piece of music; and music theory understanding builds up gradually, making constant use of over-learning to ensure knowledge ‘sticks’.

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.

Children have access to learning opportunities outside the classroom. This includes choir (KS2), Young Voices (UKS2), Waterton’s Got Talent (open to all children), ocarina lessons (KS1 – Spring Term) and peripatetic music lessons (year 3 upwards). Peripatetic music lessons are delivered in a small group and children have the option to learn a range of instruments, including: guitar, brass, woodwind, strings or drums. Children who are eligible for pupil premium funding do not have to pay for these lessons.

Our children take part in the *Wider Opportunities* programme in years 3 and 4, organised by WMS, where they get the opportunity to build on the skills that they have learnt in KS1 by learning djembe drumming. This forms the lesson for one term in years 3 and 4. The children do not have to pay for this lesson and are given the opportunity to perform to parents. There is also the opportunity to take part in the Big Drum concert, organised by WMS.

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.

All children in school access a weekly singing assembly which is delivered by the Music Lead. In these assemblies, children are exposed to a wide range of musical styles and are taught how to warm-up their voices effectively for singing.

At various points throughout the year, the singing assembly is used for children to take part in Listening and Appraising exercises, where the opportunity is taken to develop children’s musical vocabulary and understanding of musical structure. Children are also

taught how to perform body percussion pieces during these assemblies, which enables them to create and take part in whole-school performances.

The children in year 3/4 perform to the rest of the school or their parents termly to show their progress in djembe drumming, at the end of their class's lesson allocation.

Children in UKS2 perform at the Young Voices concert in the Spring term, rehearsals for which are run in classrooms throughout the Autumn term.

In Summer, children who take part in peripatetic music lessons and children in the KS2 choir take part in the Summer Concert, providing them with an opportunity to perform to their parents. The year 6 children also put on an annual pantomime to parents, showcasing their musical and acting skills.

We have musical performers, organised by the WMS, who come into school to show off their talents so our children can be inspired to be better musicians. In addition to this, a Christmas pantomime performance is brought in to school to enable all children access to a high-quality musical experience as a member of the audience.

In the Future

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

Wrenthorpe Academy would like to be able to offer whole-class instrumental lessons across all phases of our school. We currently have Djembe lessons in LKS2 and recorder lessons in UKS2. In addition to this, we would like to re-introduce ocarina lessons into KS1 classrooms, initially to children in Year 2.

We have plans to create an outdoor performance area using our outdoor classroom. We will purchase a range of outdoor-suitable instruments (and storage) for children to access during break and lunchtimes.

We plan to enhance provision for pupils with SEND through the development of a sensory garden, which will include musical instruments.

Developing our use of technology in the teaching of music. As children are growing up in an increasingly digital world, it is important that they see how this can apply to the area of music. The Music Lead will continue to develop her own understanding in this area and ensure resources are in place to deliver this aspect of the curriculum effectively.