

## Music development plan summary: North Walsall Primary Academy.

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

### Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	June 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2026
Name of the school music lead	Zowie Rook
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Georgia Sims
Name of local music hub	Black Country Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Charanga

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 North Walsall Primary Academy, we feel it is important to give children opportunities to express themselves in a creative way, allowing them to be encompassed in the world of music and other creative arts. Our goal is to implement an engaging, rich curriculum that allows children of all abilities to develop a love of music, and their talents as musicians. The children are encouraged to develop a critical engagement with music, encouraging them to increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. The Music curriculum is designed in a progressive way, which enables children to build on prior knowledge, skills and understanding whilst experiencing engaging learning experiences.

It is the aim of this policy that the needs of all children are met so they can reach their full potential in music and enhance their understanding of related subjects such as dance. Pupils should be enabled to grow in their awareness of music and the ground should be laid for the further development of skills in the future. In order for children to fulfil their full potential, a music specialist teaches music lessons across the school.

Music is a unique way of communicating which can both inspire and motivate children. At NWPA, staff members encourage children to be creative, imaginative and responsive. Music provides the opportunity for personal expression and it can play an integral part in the personal development of an individual. Music reflects our culture and society and the teaching and learning of it enables children to better understand the world in which they live. It is also important in helping children to feel that they are part of a community.

The National Curriculum for music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians;
- Learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence;
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

Music is a subject which complements and supports other areas of the curriculum. It is known to improve children's memory, concentration, co-ordination and confidence.

At NWPA, we provide many opportunities for children to experiment for themselves and contribute to the musical life of the school. All children are involved in performances, which enhance self-esteem. Every week, children in KS2 have flute lessons, this is taught by the Black Country Music Hub. In terms of qualifications and awards, our pupils have the opportunity to achieve various music qualifications and participate in music-related awards. These awards not only recognise their achievements but also motivate them to strive for excellence in their musical endeavours. Through our partnership with the Black Country Music Hub, pupils can access further instrumental and vocal lessons, enhancing their skills and broadening their musical experiences.

Music plays an important part in the life of our school. It is available to every child and all children take part in musical activities; making a positive contribution to the life of the school and local community. Activities both within and outside the classroom are planned in a way that encourages full and active participation by all children, matched to their knowledge, understanding and previous experience. Children have equal opportunities to develop their understanding and enjoyment of music regardless of race, gender and ability. Equal emphasis will be given to the roles of both girls and boys in music. Every effort will be made to ensure that activities are equally interesting to both genders.

## **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.

At North Walsall Primary Academy, we are committed to providing a rich and diverse musical education that extends beyond the core curriculum. Our co-curricular music programme is designed to offer pupils numerous opportunities to sing and play music, fostering a lifelong love for the subject and enabling them to make significant progress in their musical journey.

### **Whole School Performances.**

One of the cornerstones of our music provision is whole school performances. These performances are a chance for classes to showcase the highlights of their musical education in class through both choral singing and playing instruments.

**After School Choir.**

Our after-school choir, open to Key Stage 2 pupils, has been a vibrant part of our music programme throughout the academic year. The choir provides an opportunity for children to develop their vocal skills, learn to sing in harmony, and perform in front of live audiences. Notable, our choir had participated in notable events such as Walsall Music Hub Christmas Concerts. This year we are aiming to have a Transformation Trust performance, linking choirs across the West Midlands and growing our musical community across the Trust. These performances not only enhance their musical skills but also build confidence and teamwork.

**Mini Music.**

Our after-school club, open to EYFS and Key Stage One, offers younger children the opportunity to foster a love of music in their early life. It allows them to learn songs from different genres and learn instruments from the tuned percussion family. The outcome of this is a more advanced learning experience that will link to their classroom music curriculum.

**Instrument Learning Opportunities.**

We believe in the importance of instrumental learning as a part of a well-rounded music education. At North Walsall, we provide whole-class ensemble teaching and small-group lessons to ensure that all pupils have the chance to learn an instrument. In Year One, pupils start their musical journey by learning the glockenspiel, which helps them develop musical skills such as reading notation and playing in time. In Year Three and Four, children learn the recorder. This builds on earlier knowledge and introduced them to more advanced notation and learning more complex tunes. By Year Five and Six, pupils progress to learning how to use musical online platforms (YuStudio). This software is like any professional Digital Audio Workstation (DAW). This allows children to create their own songs and beats that link to musical genres such as Hip Hop and Grime.

**Live Performances.**

Our partnership with the Black Country Music Hub brings an exciting dimension to our music provision. The Black Country Music Hub delivers annual sessions where children can learn to sing new songs and take part in exciting music score assemblies. These sessions are highly engaging and allow pupils to explore different genres of music, fostering creativity and enthusiasm.

**Small Group Tuition.**

To cater to pupils who wish to pursue music more intensely, we offer small-group tuition for the Flute and Clarinet. These sessions are tailored to the needs of each pupil, allowing for focusses and personalised instruction.

Through regular practice, performance opportunities and exposure to a variety of musical styles and instruments, pupils can develop their skills and deepen their understanding of music.

In conclusion, North Walsall Primary Academy's co-curricular music programme offers a wealth of opportunities for pupils to engage with music in a meaningful and enjoyable way. By providing a variety of singing, instrumental activities and whole school performances we aim to nurture each child's musical potential and instil a lifelong appreciation for the art of music.

## 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 North Walsall Primary Academy, we are committed to nurturing confident, lifelong learners who are proud of who they are and who are ready to make a positive contribution to society. Our music programme, our trust and our partnership with the Black Country Music Hub allows us to provide the children with access to a variety of musical events.

Attending live performances is an integral part of our curriculum. It exposes children to new crowds and environments, helping them develop a sense of belonging and build emotional intelligence. These experiences are well-planned and progressive, ensuring that all pupils benefit from them. For instance, we will hold whole schools concert performances in our hall, providing the opportunities to experience live performances in a familiar setting. Additionally, the entire school has attended pantomime performances, which not only entertain but also educate about different forms of theatrical expression.

We also offer numerous performance opportunities for our students. Our choir participates in events such as Walsall Music Hub Christmas Concerts and school termly concerts. These performances provide students with a platform to express themselves and gain confidence in their abilities.

Seasonal performances are another highlight to our music programme. In the Autumn Term, we have an EYFS and KS1 Nativity performance, which brings the school community together to celebrate the festive season. Similarly, the whole school will participate in termly music concerts that celebrate their learning over the term. These events not only celebrate pupils' musical achievements but also strengthen community bonds.

In conclusion, our comprehensive music programme at North Walsall Primary Academy, is designed to provide students with a range of musical experiences. From attending live performances to participating in structured seasonal concerts, our pupils

are immersed in a vibrant musical culture that nurtures their talents and fosters a lifelong love of music.

## In the future

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

At North Walsall Primary Academy, we are dedicated to continuously enhancing our music education provision to ensure that it meets the highest standards and provides enriching experiences for all our students. In the coming years, we plan to implement several key improvements to further develop our student's musical abilities and appreciation.

### **Professional Development for Teachers.**

We will continue to conduct CPD sessions focussing on identified needs through learning walks, SWIVLs and staff feedback. These sessions will cover various aspects of music education, including new teaching strategies, assessment techniques and use of technology (YuStudio).

### **Utilising Assessment for Gap Analysis.**

The music subject leader will regularly review assessment outcomes to pinpoint areas where students' potential gaps in learning need to be addressed. This process will begin immediately and continue throughout the year. We will use Charanga to assess pupils at the end of every unit, this will be done as a whole class.

### **Continue to Introduce a Wide Range of New Instruments.**

Starting from the next academic year, we will hope to gradually introduce new instruments from a wider range of instrument families. This will be accompanied by appropriate training for teachers.

## Further information (optional)

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.