

Music development plan summary: Washingwell Primary School



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	April 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Will Phillips
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	Gateshead 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

At Washingwell Primary, we use a combination of class teacher-taught music lessons following the Music Maker scheme in Early Years and Key Stage 1, and music specialist-taught weekly lessons in Key Stage 2. We have weekly singing assemblies, meaning every child in each year group receives at least one hour of music teaching every week.

Our focus in Key stage 1 is to develop the essential musical skills of listening to and copying the pulse, pitch and rhythm of a wide variety of genres of music, as well as introducing the skills of music appraisal and reading musical notation, music as a form of expression and develop a lifelong love of music in our children.

Our aim is that this prepares our children for success, as well as enjoyment, when they start learning to play a range of musical instruments and develop their composing and improvisation skills in Key Stage 2.

We work closely with the Gateshead Music Hub to ensure that our curriculum is offering challenge and enjoyment to our pupils, as well as making sure it is in line with the Model Music Curriculum and the National Curriculum.

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 Washingwell Primary School, we are able to provide a range of opportunities for our children to develop their musical skills. We have singing assemblies that take place on a weekly basis, with a wide range of songs being learnt and performed. The children take part with confidence and enthusiasm, and many relish the opportunities provided to sing and perform short solo pieces in front of their peers.

As well as this, our termly assemblies provide opportunities for our children to perform as part of a whole-school ensemble in front of their parents and wider family circle. We have a recently established a Key Stage 2 Choir, which meets to practice on a weekly basis, as well as having termly opportunities to perform to parental audiences.

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.

Through our close relationship with Gateshead Music Hub, we are also able to offer our Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children twice yearly music workshops, on a range of different themes and topics, where our children get the opportunity to hear well known music from different genres, performed by a live band, as well as joining in to play a wide variety of musical instruments, as part of the band.

We take advantage of music workshops provided by Gateshead Music Hub, and each year, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 join in with these workshops of various themes, provided on-site at school. This year, our Early Years class also profited from a block of music workshops, designed to explore the pulse, rhythm and pitch of a musical piece through the playing of percussion instruments as a precursor to their musical education in Key Stage 1.

In the future

In the future, we hope to be able to build on our current musical provision by offering one-to-one music lessons for individuals to develop their musical skills by learning to play an instrument at a greater depth, as well as providing annual visits to watch live music being performed and our choir and ensembles musicians to compete with their peers in music competitions. The children at Washingwell Primary benefit from the opportunity to perform as a whole-school choir in our termly assemblies attended by families. Classes from Key Stage 2 also have the opportunity to perform on the instruments they have been learning in weekly music lessons, in these assemblies.