

# Music development plan summary: Acorns Primary School

## 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	Curriculum Teams
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Hannah Young - responsible for Curriculum Teams
Name of local music hub	Warwickshire
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Warwickshire Music Hub

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 draws on elements of Charanga Music, Cornerstones Curriculum and Warwickshire Upbeat Music lessons in KS2. As a mixed-age setting, our curriculum is taught over a two-year cycle, so that each year group will have been taught the relevant skills of singing, listening, composing and performing by the end of each cycle.

In EYFS and KS1, children receive weekly lessons from a dedicated music teacher. These lessons incorporate simple notation and a variety of songs, as well as an introduction to instrumental tuition. The children learn rhythm, pitch and pace through the use of untuned percussion instruments, recorders, glockenspiels, rhymes and short songs. They are introduced to simple composition and how to listen to and appraise each others' performances as well as those compositions from a variety of genres and periods of history.

In KS2 (Year Year 3/4 and Year 5/6), each class receives an hour every other week of tuition from a Warwickshire UpBeat instrumental teacher, for the whole academic year. During these sessions, they learn to play the flute and to read/perform more complex pieces using formal notation. Class teachers also use Charanga music to focus on listening and appraising pieces from different genres and periods in history; exploring rhythm/pitch/pulse and composition using untuned percussion and glockenspiels.

Our Cornerstones topics across KS1 and KS2 may also incorporate music activities, linked to history (e.g. wartime songs) or geography (e.g. graphic scores to represent earthquakes).

In Computing lessons, children are given the opportunity to use music technology to compose pieces of music. KS1 children use Isle of Tune and Purple Mash programmes to create visual scores. KS2 are introduced to digital audio workstations, such as YuStudio, where they can combine different musical effects to create pieces.

All children have a weekly singing assembly where they learn to perform a wide variety of vocal pieces; how to warm-up and control their voices and to sing in unison and harmony. During the summer term, the whole school participates in the Sing Up Day global singing event. They spend time during singing assemblies learning the assigned Sing Up Day anthem and this is recorded for inclusion in a global 'Digichoir', released later in the year.

## 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.

We offer children the opportunity to learn an instrument, paid for by parents/carers. We work with The Musical Box Ltd tuition company to provide guitar tuition and with Warwickshire Music to provide keyboard and flute tuition.

## 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.

### Planned musical performances (all children)

1. Monthly Family Assemblies begin with a whole-school performance of recent vocal pieces to parents/carers. These assemblies also give individual classes the chance to showcase their instrumental and vocal performances.

2. EYFS and Years 1 - 4 perform a Christmas nativity to parents/carers. Years 5& 6 lead a Christmas carol service in the local church, where they perform a variety of traditional and more contemporary festive pieces.
3. At the end of the summer term, Y5/6 perform an end of primary school musical production to parents/carers.
4. The whole school visits the local church every year for a service to mark Harvest Festival and Easter. Songs are learned and performed for these occasions and there is also the opportunity for instrumental performance.
5. Following their instrumental teaching in KS2, children perform a short concert to their family members and the rest of the school.

#### Optional performance opportunities

1. *Local town Christmas carol concert:* all children are invited to form a choir alongside other children from the Trust, to perform well-known carols at the start of the town's annual Victorian evening.
2. *Young Voices Choir:* Every two years, children in Y5/6 are invited to perform as part of the Young Voices choir, at the NEC in Birmingham. Children spend time practising the song catalogue during the Autumn term before performing alongside over 6000 children to parents/carers, in January.
3. *Shipston Proms:* Every June, children are invited to perform at the Primary Schools Concert, which is held as part of a range of events organised across the local town. Children can showcase instrumental and vocal performances either as soloists or as part of ensembles.

#### Opportunities to observe musical performance

1. Children who have lessons with Warwickshire Music and The Musical Box have the opportunity to perform to parents/carers in a Family Assembly.
2. We appreciate a different piece of music from musicians as part of 'Music of the Month'.
3. In early years, children appreciate a new piece of music each week as part of a new project led by the experienced and passionate Teaching Assistant in Little Acorns.
4. As part of our curriculum cycle, children have the opportunity to watch the local Christmas pantomime and visiting local musical theatre groups.

## **In the future**

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

Collaborate with other schools in the Trust to form a choir or instrumental ensemble.

Establish closer links with Shipston High School to develop opportunities for co-performance and to show case musical performances from KS3 and KS4 pupils to inspire children.

Collaborate with the Cotswold Arts Through Schools charity to widen children's experiences and receive support with CPD, purchase of resources and workshops/trips for children.