

**Music Development Plan Summary:  
West Thornton Primary School**

Detail Information	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/26
Date this summary was published	1st September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	31st August 2026
Name of local music hub	Croydon 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.

At West Thornton Primary School we are committed to delivering high-quality music education for all children. Our music curriculum is informed by the National Curriculum, providing a robust framework for teaching music from EYFS to Key Stages 1 and 2.

There is access to both rhythmic and melodic instruments in Key Stages 1 and 2; this will be as part of the whole-class instrumental programme and/or in other classroom teaching.

We have timetabled music lessons in all year groups. We use the Charanga music scheme for our lessons which is aligned to the National Curriculum for Music. When using the scheme and its progressive week-by-week lessons, we are guaranteeing to be meeting all the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum and progress is evident through

Observations and our online portfolios. Observations have shown all pupils engaged and active during the lessons, including SEND. We have a wide range of instruments that can be used in the lessons and our curriculum. Most teachers are confident with musical elements and teaching children how to listen and appreciate a piece of music.

**EARLY YEARS:** Children learn through carefully selected opportunities to explore a range of music through singing, listening to playing instruments both in their indoor and outdoor learning environments.

**KEY STAGE 1:** the children will learn about the many different elements that make up the music we listen to; they will listen to and perform a wide range of music and will learn how to listen with attention and identify different aspects of the music.

**KEY STAGE 2:** the children will work on reading musical notation, for reading and performing well-known pieces of music and also for writing their own original compositions.

#### **Inclusion and Support for Disabled children and SEND**

We are committed to increasing access to music education for disabled children and those with special educational needs (SEND). Our multi-sensory, inclusive approach ensures that every child can participate fully in our music programmes.

#### **Partnerships**

We have established strong partnerships with our local music hub (Croydon Music Hub) and other music education organisations. These partnerships support our curriculum music and provide additional resources and opportunities for our children.

#### **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 West Thornton, we are fortunate to have many opportunities for the children to develop their music skills. We have singing assemblies take place with a wide range of songs being learnt and performed.

The children take part with confidence and enthusiasm. Throughout the year our children enjoy taking part in a Christmas productions, end of year performances and singing within assemblies which are performed to parents and peers.

After school singing clubs provide pupils with the opportunity to enhance their musical experience, focusing on basic vocal techniques and group singing.

A number of our high needs SEND pupils have weekly Music Therapy sessions.

### **Future Plans**

At West Thornton, we are committed to continually enhancing our music provision to provide the best possible opportunities for our children.

Our future plans include:

- **Instrumental Tuition:** We are looking to to introduce tuition for instruments, such as wind and brass, to offer a more diverse range of musical experiences.
- **Developing New Ensembles:** We plan to establish new ensembles, such as a guitar or ukelele club.
- **Increased Performance Opportunities:** We will organise more frequent performances, including collaborations with other schools and community events, to give children additional platforms to showcase their talents.
- **Strengthening Partnerships:** We aim to deepen our relationships with local music hubs and education organisations to bring in expert musicians for workshops and masterclasses.
- **Inclusive Programs:** Continuing to expand our efforts to make music education accessible to all children, with a particular focus on those with special educational needs and disabilities.
- **Developing digital musical outcomes:** Create rich and exciting digital music outcomes for those with a keen interest in digital literacy, to enhance their musical literacy.

### **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.



Throughout the academic year, we hold regular opportunities for children to demonstrate their musical talents by performing something they have been working on.

These performances should showcase pieces the children have been practicing for at least a few weeks.

Our main performance opportunities throughout the year are:

- **Winter Concerts (December):** Featuring performances from various year groups, including choir and instrumental ensembles. Open to all children, with auditions held in early November.
- **Easter Parade (March):** A showcase of individual and small group performances. Children from all year groups can share their skills.
- **MFL Festival (July):** An outdoor event celebrating the musical talents of our children, including performances by the school band, choir, and individual acts, showcasing Spanish learning.
- **Year 6 Productions:** A high-quality musical production involving all Year 6 children, who audition for chorus, solo singing, and instrumental parts.

#### **Charging and Subsidies**

- **Performance Events:** Most events are free for participants and audience members. For any ticketed events, we offer subsidised or free tickets for parents or carers in particular circumstances, such as those eligible for the pupil premium.
- **Trips to Concerts:** Occasionally, we organise trips to external concerts. These trips may have associated costs, but subsidies or free tickets are available for eligible families.

#### **In the future**

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

As we look to the future, West Thornton is committed to continually improving our music provision to ensure we offer a comprehensive and high-quality music education. Here are our planned steps and improvements for the coming years:

#### **Curriculum Music Enhancements**



- **Introduction of New Instruments:** We will introduce the teaching of new instruments to diversify the musical experiences available to our children. This may start with pilot programs in the next academic year and expand based on child interest and feedback.
- **Enhanced digital music production opportunities:** We hope to develop the teaching of music using a digital suite of music technology tools to allow children to develop their music production skills.

### **Extra-curricular Music Development**

- **Expanded Access to Instrumental Lessons:** We aim to increase access to lessons across a broader range of instruments and voice. This includes recruiting additional specialist instructors and offering subsidised lessons to ensure all children have the opportunity to participate.
- **Enhanced Choir and Ensembles:** We plan to expand our school choir and create additional vocal ensembles to cater to different age groups and skill levels. We will also develop new instrumental ensembles, such as a steel pan band and an orchestra, to provide more varied group music-making opportunities.

### **Musical Experiences and Performance Opportunities**

Regular School Performances:

Starting next academic year, we will introduce a termly school performance to give children more frequent opportunities to showcase their talents.

This will include themed concerts and collaboration with other schools for joint performances.

- **Live Performance Opportunities:** We will ensure children have the opportunity to enjoy live performances at least once a year by organising more trips to concerts and inviting professional musicians to perform at our school.

### **Inclusive and Accessible Music Education**

- **Support for SEND and Disabled children:** We will continue to develop our inclusive music education practices, ensuring that disabled children and those with special educational needs (SEND) have full access to all music programs. This includes tailored lessons, adaptive instruments, and specialized support.
- **Pupil Premium Eligibility:** We will expand our subsidy programs to ensure that financial barriers do not prevent any child from participating in music lessons, ensembles, or performances.

### **Strengthening Partnerships**



- Local Music Hub Collaboration: We will deepen our collaboration with our local music hub and other music education organisations to bring in expert musicians for workshops, masterclasses, and special projects.
- Community Engagement: We aim to build stronger connections with the local community through joint events, community performances, and partnerships with local music groups and organisations.