

Woodstock CE Primary School Music Development Plan 2025 – 2026



Music at Woodstock CE Primary School

At Woodstock CE Primary School, we recognise music as an important and enriching part of every child's education. Music has the power to inspire, connect and bring joy, while making a significant contribution to pupils' personal, social, emotional and academic development. Through music, children can develop confidence and self-esteem, creativity, concentration, teamwork, leadership and a strong sense of belonging.

Our music curriculum reflects our school vision, "Hand in hand we love, learn, flourish," and our commitment to enabling every child to "Let their light shine." We want all pupils, regardless of their starting points, background or individual needs, to see themselves as musicians and to have meaningful opportunities to participate in, enjoy and succeed through music.

We aim to provide a broad, ambitious and progressive music curriculum in which pupils develop their knowledge and skills through singing, listening, performing, composing and musicianship. As children progress through the school, they build their musical knowledge and vocabulary, develop increasing confidence in performing individually and collaboratively, and learn to listen to, appreciate and respond thoughtfully to music from a diverse range of traditions, cultures, periods and styles.

Music at Woodstock extends beyond discrete curriculum lessons. Singing, instrumental learning, performances, assemblies, productions, clubs and wider enrichment opportunities enable pupils to experience music as a shared and social activity. These experiences provide opportunities for children to perform to different audiences, work collaboratively, develop confidence and celebrate their own achievements and those of others.

We recognise that high-quality music education should be inclusive and accessible to all. We are committed to identifying and reducing barriers to participation so that all pupils, including those with SEND and those who may not otherwise have access to musical opportunities beyond school, can engage fully in the musical life of Woodstock.

Through our Music Mark Development Plan, we aim to build upon our existing strengths while continuing to develop the quality, consistency and breadth of our music provision. Our focus is not simply on the number of musical opportunities available, but on their quality, progression, inclusivity and impact. We want every child to leave Woodstock having experienced the joy of making music, developed meaningful musical knowledge and skills, performed with others and understood that music can continue to enrich their lives beyond primary school.



Overview

Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	01.09.26
Date this summary will be reviewed	01.07.27
Name of the school music lead	Ruth Mankelow
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Anna Poole (DHT)
Name of local music hub	Oxfordshire Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Oxfordshire Music Service

Part A: Curriculum Music

Curriculum Programme

At Woodstock CE Primary School, we use the Sing Up Music curriculum as the foundation of our music provision, ensuring full coverage of the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum through a clear, progressive and ambitious programme of study. Our curriculum is carefully sequenced so that pupils build their musical knowledge, skills and understanding over time through singing, listening, composing, performing and musicianship. Learning is engaging, practical and accessible, enabling every child to participate and develop confidence as a musician. Pupils encounter a broad and diverse range of music, composers, traditions and styles, developing their ability to listen critically, respond creatively and appreciate music within different cultural and historical contexts. Alongside developing technical skills and musical vocabulary, our curriculum provides regular opportunities for pupils to create, collaborate and perform. We believe that access to high-quality music education is an important entitlement for every child and, through our curriculum, aim to develop confident, curious musicians who enjoy making music and develop a lasting appreciation of its place within their lives and the wider world.

Classroom Instrumental Teaching

Classroom instrumental teaching is an integral and well-resourced part of music at Woodstock CE Primary School. Throughout their primary journey, all pupils are given regular opportunities to learn, explore and perform using a range of instruments within curriculum music lessons, including untuned and tuned percussion, recorders and ukuleles. Instrumental learning is carefully integrated within our wider music curriculum, enabling pupils to progressively develop their understanding of rhythm, pulse, pitch and melody, alongside learning how to read and interpret basic musical notation. Practical music-making is engaging and inclusive, encouraging children to experiment, create, rehearse and perform both independently and collaboratively, while developing confidence and enjoyment as musicians. These classroom experiences are complemented by wider opportunities including weekly singing Collective Worship, school choir, Young Voices and performances within school and the wider community, as well as opportunities provided through partnerships such as Oxfordshire Music Service. Together, these experiences ensure that every child has meaningful opportunities to play, perform and experience the enjoyment of making music with others.

Links with External Music Organisations

Woodstock CE Primary School has established strong and longstanding links with Oxfordshire's local music provision and Music Hub, enabling our pupils to benefit from a range of high-quality musical experiences beyond the classroom. We actively engage with wider opportunities, including the Big Summer Sing and Christmas Sing, and promote holiday music activities and other opportunities available to children and families. External music partnerships also support and enhance whole-school performances, giving pupils opportunities to perform alongside others and experience music on a larger scale. Beyond the Music Hub, we continue to develop links with local secondary schools, musicians and community organisations, alongside participation in national events such as Young Voices. Through these partnerships, we aim to broaden pupils' musical experiences, raise aspirations and provide clear opportunities for children to continue developing their musical interests, talents and participation both within and beyond school.

Staff CPD & Development

We recognise that confident and knowledgeable staff are central to delivering high-quality music education. The Music Lead accesses relevant CPD and professional development opportunities throughout the year, using this learning to support the ongoing development of music across the school. Staff meeting time is used, where appropriate, to share good practice, provide curriculum updates and develop teachers' confidence in delivering key aspects of music, including singing, instrumental teaching, composition and musical vocabulary. All teaching staff are encouraged to access relevant CPD opportunities, with support responsive to identified needs. Through ongoing professional development, we aim to ensure that staff feel increasingly confident and well equipped to deliver an engaging, inclusive and progressive music curriculum. We also link with the Witney Music Society who have supported our music provision through purchasing instruments.

Part B: Co-curricular Music

Music Beyond the Core Curriculum

Music is an important part of wider school life at Woodstock CE Primary School, and we provide a range of opportunities for pupils to develop their musical interests and talents beyond curriculum lessons. Individual and small-group instrumental tuition in guitar, brass and woodwind is delivered in school each week by specialist teachers through the Oxfordshire Centre for Music. While this tuition is ordinarily funded by parents, we are committed to ensuring that financial circumstances do not become a barrier to participation, with additional funding opportunities explored through the Oxfordshire Music Service for eligible pupils, including those in receipt of Pupil Premium.

We have a thriving Key Stage 2 Choir, which is free and accessible to all pupils within the phase and provides regular opportunities to rehearse and perform both within school and in the wider community. All pupils also participate in weekly singing Collective Worship, ensuring that shared music-making and singing are a regular part of school life. Throughout their time at Woodstock, children have opportunities to participate in class, phase and whole-school performances, Christmas church services, community events and larger-scale musical experiences, including events organised through Oxfordshire Music Service and national opportunities such as Young Voices. Through these experiences and our close partnership with external music providers, we aim to broaden pupils' musical horizons, develop confidence and performance skills, and ensure that as many children as possible can experience the enjoyment and sense of belonging that comes from making music together.

Part C: Musical Experiences

Other Musical Events and Experiences

We are committed to creating a vibrant musical culture in which children experience music in a wide variety of contexts, both as performers and as audiences. Throughout their time at Woodstock, pupils have opportunities to participate in Christmas Nativities and carol services, school productions, instrumental ensembles, musical showcases, School's Got Talent, children's bands and performances involving our staff band. Pupils also take part in larger-scale events and festivals, including performances at Christ Church Cathedral, the Big Christmas Sing and Young Voices, providing memorable opportunities to perform alongside musicians and children from other schools.

- Christmas Nativities
- Carol Services
- School Productions (plays and performances)
- Instrumental ensembles
- Music festivals e.g. Christchurch Cathedral, Big Christmas Sing, Young Voices
- Staff band
- Children's band
- Musical showcases
- School's Got Talent

As part of our wider curriculum, external music professionals are invited into school as part of our Creative Arts Week to perform to children. The Oxfordshire Music Service also carry out performances throughout the year to inspire our children to take up a new instrument.

Part D: In the Future

Planned Future Developments

- **Curriculum:** Further investment in musical instruments – now that grant awarded by Witney Music Society and through our links with Kingham Lodge.
- **Singing:** Further embed our singing resources through use of Singup which we subscribe to.
- **Leadership:** Identify suitable staff CPD to continue to develop composition and instrumental performance.
- Introduction of further whole-class ensemble projects and opportunities throughout the year.
- Further develop engagement in extra-curricular music for Pupil Premium and SEND children.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

This school is proud to be a

Music Mark School

In recognition of a commitment to
providing a high-quality music education
for all children and young people

2024 - 2025



Bridget Whyte
CEO of Music Mark

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