

# Music development plan summary: Wildmoor Heath School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Sarah Webb
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	n/a
Name of local music hub	Berkshire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	I-Rock MacManus Music Project

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

Music at Wildmoor Heath School is taught in all classes from Early Years Foundation Stage to Year 6. We aim to develop the knowledge, skills and understand of music for all pupils through a range of teaching styles. These include: actions and dance, whole class work, small group work and individual work. Staff work together to ensure music progression is evident throughout the school and pupils revisit prior learning and build on this year on year. By the end of KS2, we expect them to be familiar and confident in using subject specific vocabulary, such as tempo, pitch, dynamics, pulse and rhythm. Our music curriculum allows:

- Pupils to develop their performance skills through learning to play tuned and un-tuned instruments, singing a variety of songs and rehearsing and performing with others.
- Pupils to develop their composing skills through creating musical patterns and exploring sounds and learning to record these in a variety of ways.
- Pupils to learn to analyse and compare sounds, explore ideas and make improvements to their work, building on their appraising skills.
- Pupils to learn to listen with increased concentration to internalise and recall sounds.
- Children in Year 4 are introduced to playing and maintaining an instrument; they will have ukulele lessons (brass instruments in previous years) through Berkshire Maestros' 'In 2 Music' scheme.

Teachers follow the GetSet4Music scheme when planning lessons. These lessons follow a steady progression of skills, building on prior learning to ensure secure

understanding and development of musical vocabulary, skills and notation. Children with SEND are supported in class, according to their individual needs, for example, using ear defenders when music lessons are louder than average or additional focus on children with hearing impairments. Teachers will also ensure children are challenged, depending on their ability.

We have taken into consideration the model music curriculum recommendations (2021) and ensure all children receive one hour of music learning per week or equivalent. Year 4 take part in the 'In2Music' scheme through Berkshire Music Trust and are given the opportunity to learn the ukulele or a brass/wind instrument. These lessons are taught as a whole class on a weekly basis for a minimum of one term by peripatetic teachers from Berkshire Music Trust. Children are given a further opportunity to continue learning this instrument with parent-funded tuition. Children are also offered the opportunity to receive individual or group music tuition by I-Rock music school or MacManus Music Project.

All children participate in a weekly singing assembly and take part in regular performances, including the following:

- Special Assemblies
- Reception and Y1 Nativity
- Y2 – Y6 Christmas Concert
- Year 6 leavers' production
- In 2 Music end of tuition performance
- Year 5 Talent Contest
- Musical galas
- Choir performances within the community, such as visiting care homes, Carnival Music Festival, Christmas Lights Event
- Choir performances at PTA events

## **Part B: Co-curricular music**

Singing is part of our music curriculum and all pupils in school take part in a twenty-minute singing assembly each week. Songs learned are sung in concerts or sung to special guests in celebration assemblies throughout the year.

We have a school choir for children in years 2 to 6 and we take part in various community events including singing for the elderly, singing at PTA and open events at the school, Carnival music festival, Commemoration events, such as D-Day, and opening the event to celebrate the turning on of the village Christmas lights.

Year 4 take part in the In2Music scheme, offered by Berkshire Music Trust and children are given the opportunity to learn the ukulele or a brass/wind instrument with weekly professional training. Parents can choose to continue these lessons by funding further tuition through Berkshire Music Trust and they are offered subsidised hire of an instrument for this purpose.

Parents can fund additional weekly music lessons through I-Rock where children join together to form a band and perform once a term to their parents and carers. Parents can also fund music lessons to learn drums, guitar, piano or singing with MacManus Music Projects where an experienced, professional musician teaches the children individually or in groups during core school hours.

Additionally, we have offered a recorder club and a ukulele club as an extra-curricular after-school clubs to allow children to learn to play and to read notation. Children are encouraged to purchase their own instruments to continue to practise at home between lessons but school can provide instruments to children who cannot purchase their own.

## Part C: Musical experiences

- Celebration Assemblies to special guests and staff
- Reception and Y1 Nativity to parents, carers and grandparents
- Y2 – Y6 Christmas Concert to parents, carers and grandparents
- Year 6 leavers' production to parents, carers and grandparents
- Year 5 Talent Contest to the whole school
- Musical galas to parents and carers
- Choir performances within the community, such as visiting care homes and Christmas Lights Event and any other opportunities which arise
- Choir performances at PTA events to the wider school community
- Children in Year 6 travel into London to see a professional musical production being performed to help inspire their own performance.
- All children experienced a performance from a touring theatre company, M& M Productions, who brought a musical production of 'A Christmas Carol'.

We benefit from the input of a professional musician who is the owner of MacManus Music Projects. He plays a live instrument to support our choir and has also played this to support some year groups with their Christmas performance so children can play to live accompaniment. Children in Year 6 were also accompanied by piano in a song for their leaver's assembly; this performance also had Abba song lyrics re-written specifically for this occasion by one of our children in Year 6, with the support of their father, who is a professional entertainer.

## In the future

- Music Lead to continue to develop and embed music across the school, with focus on offering music from different cultures and periods.
- Ensuring staff are confident to develop the skills as they deliver the lessons and the Music Lead providing support where required.
- Looking for creative ways to monitor the learning of music in the school, such as videos of performances from the children, audio recording of compositions.
- Continue to support children with SEND or are facing barriers to learning.

- Provide more opportunities for performing; introduce a termly concert with a different focus, such as a musical gala for children who learn a classical instrument at home to be able to perform a piece to parents/ carers or the school.
- Provide more opportunities to see professional musicians perform, expanding the musical experiences of the children to different cultures, styles, genres and instruments.
- Provide opportunities for children to take part in larger choral concerts, such as a borough-wide concert or Young Voices.
- Focus on learning how technology is used in creating, recording and editing musical compositions, using iPads or Chromebooks.
- Greater experience of viewing performances, both concerts and musical productions to aid the children's development as performers.

## Further information

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.

For more information on local music opportunities, visit the website for Berkshire Music Trust: <https://www.berksmusictrust.org.uk/>

Berkshire Music Trust In2Music scheme: <https://www.berksmusictrust.org.uk/in2music/>

MacManus Music Project: <https://www.macmanusmusicproject.co.uk/>

i-Rock: <https://www.irockschool.com/>