



# Music development plan summary: Smith's Wood Primary Academy



## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	
Name of the school music lead	Kathryn Green
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Solihull Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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 Smith's Wood, the Music curriculum intends to engage and inspire a love for music and performance. There are musical opportunities for all children, who are encouraged to be thoughtful and creative, reflecting on their own musical talents and influences of



music. Children are taught through a fun and engaging way that provides access to a range of styles and genres, opportunities to explore historical and modern music and artists.

Our Music curriculum follows the Charanga Original Scheme and is delivered weekly for an hour. This spiral curriculum allows children to understand and apply the inter-related dimensions of music at an age appropriate level, experiencing a wide range of music genres. In lessons, children experience an array of instruments, such as glockenspiels and recorders, to incorporate into lessons sequentially and are taught basic levels of music theory, such as note values on a staff. They also take part in regular singing practice in lessons.

In addition to this, Year 4 (guitar) and Year 2 (ukulele) receive whole-class ensemble teaching delivered by Solihull Music. Each class receives half a year's worth of tuition which is of high quality and supported by their class teacher whilst delivered by Solihull Music.

At Smith's Wood, we support SEND children by giving them individualised support in lessons, access to sensory tools when needed, such as ear defenders, and differentiated activities if needed.

## **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 Smith's Wood, children have access to a variety of additional music opportunities. Many children receive weekly drum tuition delivered by an external drum tutor. They have half-hour lessons and are taught in groups of two and is funded by the school, meaning that it is free to our pupils. In addition to this, from September 20 Year 5 children will receive weekly, half-hour guitar tuition which will allow for progression in the instrument following the tuition they received in Year 4 the year previous. These lessons are funded by parents at the cost of £2.40 per session. This will be delivered by Solihull Music. We also have some children in our school who are in care and receive one-to-one music lessons for a chosen instrument, giving them access to opportunities they might not elsewhere have. This opportunity is funded by the Virtual School group.

Throughout the year, children also have the opportunity to access extra-curricular music clubs delivered by staff for free within our school which lasts the duration of a half term. These include Year 2 recorder club, Year 5 keyboard club, and a Year 4, 5 and 6 choir club. These clubs are open to any pupils who wish to join and have an enjoyment for music.



Through all of these musical opportunities, children are given the opportunity to perform their work, such as at a local nursing home and in school assemblies and performances. As well as this, some More Able children are invited to take part in singing workshops at Marston Green Primary school where they learn a collection of songs from a musical and then perform them to their parents at the end of the morning.

Our Music room is also an exciting and engaging space with a range of resources to be accessed during lesson times and extra-curricular clubs.

In addition, we have a close partnership with Solihull Music who, like previously mentioned, delivery our whole-class ensemble teaching, funded by the school, and small group guitar ensemble. We have also previously worked with them before to deliver music workshops on World Music Day, such as djembe drums.

## **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.

Each year, pupils get the opportunity for a variety of musical performances. Each year at Christmas, all pupils partake in a Christmas performance where they learn to sing a variety of Christmas songs that they then perform to their parents/carers. A lot of time is spent preparing children for this event to ensure the performance is to a high quality.

Pupils in the KS2 choir have previously had the opportunity to perform at a local ASDA and a local nursing home. Next year, we plan on providing similar opportunities for this group. Children in Year 2, 4 and 5 who receive whole class ensemble teaching also have the opportunity to perform to their peers and in assemblies once they have completed their set of lessons at the end of the term.

As well as this, children who receive additional music tuition outside of school are given the opportunity to showcase their talents in whole school assemblies.

As part of their music lessons, children are given the opportunity to perform what they have been learning, whether that be on an instrument or by singing. These lessons often take place at the end of the half term and allow children to practice their performing skills as well as listen and appreciate the performance from their peers.

In addition to these opportunities to perform, all children are also given the opportunity to watch live performances. As mentioned above, they participate by watching their peers. Also, a performance company will visit us in January to perform a pantomime of 'Jack in the Beanstalk' to all children across the school. This performance is filled with



songs the children can appreciate and sing along to. We ask parents/carers to contribute a small fee for this performance of around £2.50.

## In the future

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

At Smith's Wood, we would like to continue our musical progression by expanding our extra-curricular opportunities to provide more frequent opportunities for a wider variety of pupils. We would also like to provide more opportunities for performance within school. This may be a performance to alternative year groups or to parents.

In addition, we will continue to evaluate the use of the Charanga scheme to ensure it is appropriate for our school and make changes if needed.