

Music Overview

At Hartside Primary Academy, our music curriculum is designed to inspire a life-long love of music and to develop confident, creative musicians. We aim to nurture children's appreciation of music from a wide range of genres, cultures, and historical periods, ensuring that every child experiences the joy of performing, composing, and listening. From the very start in our EYFS, children are immersed in music daily. They sing traditional nursery rhymes and modern songs, explore rhythm and beat through engaging activities and games, a

nd begin to play both tuned and untuned instruments. These early experiences build strong foundations for musical learning in Key Stage 1 and beyond.

As children progress through school, they continue to develop their musical skills through singing, instrumental work, composition, and active listening. Our curriculum follows the principles of the Model Music Curriculum and uses Charanga Musical School Units of Work, which provide a spiral approach to learning. This means children revisit key concepts through varied activities, deepening understanding and mastering skills over time.

We are proud to offer specialist teaching to enrich our provision. Each week, our music specialist (Mr Waite) delivers lessons that include opportunities to learn instruments such as the ukulele and drums. In addition, children in KS1 and KS2 can access guitar and violin tuition through Durham Music Service. Performance is central to our approach: children showcase their talents in assemblies, productions, and whole-school events. We value live performance and host an annual Brass Band performance during the Durham Brass Festival for the entire school. We also have a thriving school choir, which provides further opportunities for children to develop their vocal skills and perform in a range of settings.

Music at Hartside Primary Academy is not only about developing musical knowledge and skills—it also fosters essential transferable skills such as teamwork, listening, concentration, leadership, creativity, and decision-making. These qualities prepare our children for success both in music and across the wider curriculum, supporting their transition into Key Stage 3 and beyond.

Long Term Plan

Year	A		B		C	
EYFS	Introduced throughout the year					
1	My musical heartbeat	Christmas Performance	Exploring Sounds	Learning to Listen	. Ukulele with Music Service	Ukulele with Music Service

		Singing simple tunes in unison with or without accompaniment or backing tracks.				
2	Pulse, Rhythm and Pitch	Christmas Performance	. Ukulele with Music Service	Ukulele with Music Service	Exploring Improvisation	Our big concert
3	Ukulele with Music Service	Ukulele with Music Service	Compose using your imagination	More musical Styles .	Enjoying improvisation	End of Year Performance
4	Musical Structures	Exploring feelings when you play	Compose with your friends	Feelings through music	. Ukulele and Digital Music Making with Music Service	End of Year Performance
5	Melody and Harmony in Music	Sing and Play in different styles	Ukulele with Music Service	Digital Music Making with Music Service	Freedom to improvise	End of Year Performance
6	. Ukulele with Music Service	Digital Music Making with Music Service	Creative Composition	Musical Styles Connect Us	End of Year Performance	End of Year Performance

