

Music development plan summary: Hartside Primary Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	May 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	May 2026
Name of the school music lead	Fiona Tindale
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Durham Music Service
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.

In our music lessons, we are creative, collaborative, celebratory, and challenging. We bring our school community together through whole school singing, ensemble playing, experimenting with the creative process, and through the love of listening to friends performing. Music is taught for 45 minutes - 1 hour per week.

We aim to develop secure musicianship in our pupils through iterative practice. Our weekly music lessons provide opportunities to learn an instrument in partnership with our local music hub, appreciating the importance of performance in school. We enhance the cultural capital of our pupils by enabling all to access a live performance each year.

We follow the aims of the model music curriculum, ensuring that pupils increasingly enjoy both their music lessons and taking part in the wider musical life of the school. Our pupils sing with accurate pitch in unison or harmony, with attention to phrasing and

dynamics. They are capable of playing a simple melody on an instrument in an ensemble and learning it from, for example, staff notation. They are also able to create short phrases of new melodic music and demonstrate knowledge of music from a range of musical traditions.

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.

We work closely with our local Music Hub, Durham Music Service. Children from Year 1 to Year 6 receive a one-term block of music teaching each year from an expert professional from the Music Service. In Years 1 to 3, children learn the ukulele, and in Years 4 to 6, they learn the guitar. Additionally, children in Years 5 and 6 learn digital music making. All children have access to an instrument for their lessons.

Children and parents can opt into further Music Service lessons, currently offering guitar and violin. Most parents pay for these sessions, but the school offers support for tuition costs on an individual basis.

Each year group participates in a termly ensemble during a whole school assembly, where they share and perform the skills they have developed on the ukulele or guitar. Children in smaller music tuition groups also perform at these assemblies.

We offer adults and children the chance to join our community choir, which performs at Christmas and key events

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 Key Stage, including EYFS, holds a Christmas or end-of-year performance where children learn songs and singing techniques. The KS1 Christmas performance is held at our local church.

Every year, we host a Brass Band performance during the Durham Brass Festival in July. Bands from around the world have performed at Hartside, making it a key event of the year that children and staff eagerly anticipate. An SEND workshop occurs alongside this event.

We sing songs in our daily assemblies, and all children learn Makaton signing for the assembly songs. Songs are chosen to reflect current events, times of year, or popularity.

Each year, we aim to either visit or host a pantomime for all year groups.

In the future

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

To further improve our offer, we plan to utilise recent staff CPD on the use of the Model Music Curriculum Charanga resources to improve the teaching of Music across school. We aim to offer all children in Years 1 -6 one hour of music teaching per week.

We will further promote the Community Choir with an aim to increase uptake and interest.