



Sandy Lane Primary School

Music Development Plan

Sandy Lane Primary School is part of the Greenshaw Learning Trust.

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Music Development Plan Summary: Sandy Lane Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Tasha Ingram
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Berkshire Music Trust
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.

Sandy Lane Primary School has previously followed the Charanga Music Scheme of Work, aligned with the latest version of the *Model Music Curriculum*. Our music curriculum is informed by the Department for Education's *Model Music Curriculum* (March 2021). The school is currently piloting a term of music provision using the Oak Academy music scheme to evaluate its effectiveness and identify any additional benefits for our pupils.

All children have full access to, and are included in, music lessons. Pupils from the Specially Resourced Provision (SRP) also participate in music lessons alongside their mainstream year groups, ensuring that music education is inclusive and accessible to all.

Weekly music lessons are up to 45 minutes in duration. In addition, weekly singing assemblies are scheduled for each key stage. These assemblies provide further

opportunities to develop and consolidate elements of the music curriculum, with a particular focus on age-appropriate singing and performance skills.

Instrumental Teaching

At Sandy Lane Primary School, children have regular opportunities to develop their instrumental skills through whole-class teaching. During Key Stage 1, pupils are introduced to a range of tuned and untuned percussion instruments, developing their understanding of rhythm, pulse, pitch and musical expression.

Following this introduction, pupils participate in dedicated whole-class instrumental lessons. The school has also partnered with Berkshire Music Trust to provide specialist instrumental teaching for pupils in Years 3–5. Each year group receives a dedicated term of specialist tuition, with opportunities for pupils to take instruments home to support independent practice. Pupils are also given opportunities to rehearse within school and to perform their learning to parents and the wider school community at the end of their programme.

The current programme is structured as follows:

- Year 3 – Autumn Term: Ukulele
- Year 4 – Spring Term: Brass
- Year 5 – Summer Term: Keyboard and percussion

Through their instrumental learning, pupils are introduced to formal musical notation and develop their ability to read and interpret music.

In Year 6, pupils' instrumental experiences are broadened further through a focus on percussion. They are taught to play the djembe, a type of African drum, developing their rhythmic skills while also broadening their understanding of music from different cultures and traditions.

Singing and Musical Vocabulary

Across Key Stage singing assemblies, pupils are taught to sing a diverse range of music linked to cultural, seasonal and school events. Singing warm-ups are incorporated regularly, and specific aspects of vocal technique are developed through teacher modelling and conducting.

Teachers explicitly introduce and reinforce appropriate musical terminology and vocabulary throughout singing and music provision. This supports pupils in developing a secure understanding of musical concepts and enables them to confidently discuss, describe and evaluate their own musical experiences and those of others.

Part B: Extra-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.

Music tuition

'Rock steady' visits the school weekly, children have the opportunity to be part of a rock and pop band choosing from a range of instruments or vocals. This is available for children in Y1 to Y6. Tuition costs £42.79 per month. Two bursaries are available every year for Pupil Premium children based on their assessed need.

School choirs

The school has established a KS1 choir for Year 2 children to participate in with the addition of Year 1 to join at Easter. This is made up of 20 children who will learn a variety of songs and perform them at school events with the idea of gradually increasing this to local events in the near future. This will be the beginning of teaching them their love of singing and further developing their skills used in singing assemblies. The love of this choir will set them up for a smooth transition over to the KS2 choir as they move up throughout the school.

The KS2 choir is well established and popular with the children. Last academic year 30 children regularly attended. The choir are involved in local events, for example singing at local care homes and taking part in Berkshire Music hub singing events. Further afield, the choir also takes part every other year with the Young Voices initiative, culminating in a performance at the O2 area in London. Children are charged £1 for weekly sessions, charges are made for transport to events such as the Bracknell Schools Junior Music Festival and the Young Voices event. Pupil Premium children are exempt from charges.

The school continues to promote opportunities for pupils to experience and participate in music beyond the school environment. Details of musical events and opportunities organised by the Berkshire Music Trust will be shared with the wider school community through the school newsletter. This ensures that pupils and families are aware of opportunities to engage with music locally and encourages children to continue developing their musical interests beyond the classroom.

Part C: Musical events, performances and 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.

Pupils at Sandy Lane Primary School have a wide range of opportunities to perform and experience live music throughout the school year.

Termly Rock Steady performances take place for the whole school and parent community. These performances provide pupils with the opportunity to experience live music in a variety of styles and formats, while also celebrating the achievements of pupils involved in the programme. Exposure to live performance encourages interest and enthusiasm for music and supports further participation in the project.

Weekly singing assemblies provide regular opportunities for pupils to rehearse and develop songs in preparation for cultural, seasonal and community performances. These sessions support the development of pupils' confidence, vocal technique and performance skills.

The Key Stage 1 Choir has opportunities to perform for the local community, enabling pupils to share their musical learning beyond the school environment and develop confidence as performers.

The Key Stage 2 Choir benefits from opportunities to experience a wider range of live musical performances. Pupils attend musical events in venues in Reading and London, including opportunities to hear orchestral performances. They also have the opportunity to perform alongside an orchestra, providing a valuable and memorable experience of collaborative music-making and live performance.

Throughout the academic year, pupils take part in a variety of school events which provide further opportunities to sing and perform. These include:

- Harvest Festival
- Christmas Concert
- Santa Dance
- Year 6 production
- Class assemblies

Each class has the opportunity to participate in a class assembly once a year, which includes an element of singing or musical performance. These opportunities enable pupils to develop their confidence, stage presence and ability to perform to an audience.

Collectively, these experiences ensure that pupils have regular opportunities to perform, listen and respond to live music, while developing confidence, musicality and an appreciation of music as a shared and collaborative experience.

In the future

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

2026-2027

- Arranging more trips for children to get to see musical theatre (i.e. Pantos)

- Liaising with local theatre schools to have some in-school opportunities to develop their singing and performance skills.
- Providing 6 classes with a term's worth of instrumental teaching from a professional.

2027-2028

- Continue with exposure to learning instruments
- Creating instrumental teaching opportunities for KS1 and EYFS.