Music development plan summary: Ravensworth Terrace Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	August 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Claire Shaw
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Gateshead Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Side by Side Arts

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.

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.

Music lessons at Ravensworth make up one hour per week (0.5 curriculum lesson plus 0.5 collective singing). Our curriculum is based on the objectives from the National Curriculum.

Reception

Time spent on Music lessons per week may differ as they are often delivered in a cross-curricular fashion. At Ravensworth, we follow The Birth to Five Matters Framework. Music is linked to the following areas of learning: Communication and Language; Physical Development and Expressive Arts and Design. Children learn to create sounds in various ways using their body and objects as well as exploring the sounds created by various instruments. They move and dance to music and sounds,

perform and sing songs, and learn to move in time to a beat. When listening, they are encouraged to make links between music and the world around them. They learn how to experiment with dynamics and tempo and how to copy basic rhythms.

Key Stage One

Using 'Charanga' as a guide for our scheme across Years 1 and 2 ensures the children's musical skills progress during Key Stage 1. It allows them to learn a variety of genres of music including hip hop, jazz and reggae. During each lesson, the interrelated dimensions of music are constantly revisited and consolidated to allow children to become confident with all musical vocabulary. They also have access to a variety of tuned and percussion instruments which are explored and played as a class ensemble.

Key Stage Two

Throughout Key Stage Two, Side by Side Arts provide a curriculum which is planned and delivered by a music specialist. Lessons are carried out on a fortnightly basis and delivered by one member of staff across the key stage to ensure continuity and progression of skills. A specialist brings expertise, enthusiasm and a love of music to the children of KS2. Our curriculum delivered by Side by Side Arts is a relatively new addition to our school syllabus. Children currently use glockenspiels and boomwhackers as instruments, playing as a whole class ensemble during lessons. As they progress, we hope to add more instruments to our repertoire.

Both Key Stage One and Two meet of a weekly basis to sing collectively as a whole school. They listen to and sing a variety of styles of song as well as move to the music to create an all-round performance. We practise songs which demonstrate our values and our close relationship as a school team. Children learn about famous artists and how to sing using expression, taking dynamics into consideration to create emotion through their voices.

Through our music scheme, children will learn and become confident with the interrelated dimensions of music: pulse, rhythm, pitch, dynamics, tempo, timbre, structure, texture and notation. We aim to regularly expose pupils to musical vocabulary, a variety of musical genres as well as access instruments so that children have a thorough knowledge of all elements of music. Learning about the history of music and being able to identify musical eras through listening is a key area of the curriculum. The theory of music, including notation and time signatures, is also an important element of their learning. Children are able to use their knowledge to read music, play and perform as well as compose their own pieces. The individual needs of our pupils are always considered when designing our lessons. Music is a perfect way for all children to express themselves and learning is accessible to all. Our music curriculum at Ravensworth inspires, engages and develops a love of music.

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.

Learning a musical instrument is a skill we encourage at Ravensworth. Gateshead Music Service and Side by Side Arts provide small groups of children with the opportunity to learn a variety of instruments: piano, guitar, flute and clarinet. Piano and guitar lessons are taught 2:1 and flute and clarinet 4:1 all for half an hour per week. Small group music lessons require a weekly payment charge and are open to children in Key Stage Two. Children playing flute and clarinet are provided with an instrument loan. Those playing piano and guitar have access to an instrument within school. The amount of children taking part in peripatetic lessons is increasing every year as more opportunities arise and the number who are interested grows due to seeing their peers participating. We are currently looking to extend the lessons we provide hoping to include more instruments including singing and drums depending on pupil interest. Children who take part in these lessons have the opportunity to achieve grades through music examinations. Side by Side Arts also offer tuition lessons at their studio outside of school hours.

A number of Key Stage Two pupils with a particular love for singing and performing have the opportunity to join the choir (Singing Club) free of charge. The school choir are an enthusiastic, passionate group of pupils who practise weekly and perform regularly, representing our school at every opportunity.

Musical Performances

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.

We seek to provide opportunities for the children to share their skills with pupils, family members, governors, elderly friends of the school and the wider community. Every week, children practise performing together within our singing assembly. During these sessions, Singing Club also have the opportunity to perform in front of the school. Singing Club perform many times across the course of the year both inside and outside of school. At Christmas, we perform in supermarkets and homes for the elderly as well as for the school during Christmas lunch and other festive shows for parents and the community. They take part in many school performances throughout the year and in the summer, regularly perform in the yard for the rest of the school. The annual talent show is great opportunity to share what we have learnt over the course of the year.

The talent show (Ravensworth's Got Talent), which is usually in the summer term, is also an opportunity for our instrument players to celebrate and share their learning. Children who love performing have the opportunity to sing, dance and express themselves in front of an audience. It gives the children something to work towards and those who take part grow and develop in confidence every year showing dedication and passion. This opportunity is open to pupils in Year 4 to Year 6.

The children also take part in various performances throughout the year which are presented to parents: Harvest, The Nativity, The Christmas Concert, The Easter Celebration and The Year 6 Leavers' Assembly. Selected year groups perform each assembly to allow all children to take part in at least one performance each year. We also try to provide children with the opportunity to watch various productions including a trip to the theatre to watch a pantomime for Year 6 and a visit to Lord Lawson to watch their annual show. Year 2 are also involved in a dance performance at the Sage where they get to share their creation with a wider audience.

In the future

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

In the future we are looking to improve the following aspects of our music curriculum:

- Increasing whole class lesson time to one hour per week (not including collective singing time)
- To purchase a wider variety of instruments to use in whole class ensembles.
- To include more peripatetic lesson options and have the space to accommodate these lessons
- To move to music specialists teaching curriculum lessons in Key Stage One

Further information

Link to Gateshead Music Hub (provider of flute and clarinet lessons)

https://www.gatesheadandsouthtynesidemusichub.co.uk/

Link to Side by Side Arts (provider of our piano and guitar lessons and curriculum lessons in Key Stage Two)

https://sidebysidearts.org/

Link to Charanga (our music scheme used in Key Stage One)