

Music Development Plan Summary: North Kidlington School



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 2025
Date this summary was published	July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Music Cluster Group
Name of local music hub	Oxfordshire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	n/a

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.

Please see the North Kidlington School (NKS) [website](#) for details on our vision for our Curriculum. Our Music [progression](#) and [Intent, Implementation and Impact](#) documents outline in detail our rationale for teaching music and how we support SEND children in accessing the music curriculum. Our music curriculum is based on the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) [statutory framework](#) and the National Curriculum [music programmes of study](#). We also strive to fulfil the vision of the [national plan for music education](#) set out in the 2022 policy paper.

EYFS

At NKS, we believe that the development of children's artistic and cultural awareness supports their imagination and creativity. It is important that children have regular opportunities to engage with the arts, enabling them to explore and play with a wide range of media and materials. The quality and variety of what children see, hear and participate in is crucial for developing their understanding, self-expression, vocabulary and ability to communicate through the arts. The frequency, repetition and depth of

their experiences are fundamental to their progress in interpreting and appreciating what they hear, respond to and observe. This is done through daily singing and continuous provision and regularly planned adult led activities which gives the opportunities for the children to:

- Listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses.
- Sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody.
- Explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo or in groups: creating collaboratively, sharing ideas, resources and skills.

KS1

The children in KS1 enjoy a full music curriculum where the children are exposed to a variety of musical genres and instruments and have a range of opportunities to:

- use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes
- play tuned and untuned instruments musically
- listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music
- experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

This is delivered through 1 x 40-minute discrete music lesson every week, a 20 minute weekly departmental 'singing' assembly and a Christmas music/drama performance.

Music lessons are thoroughly planned to ensure children are exposed to and have time to appreciate music from different places, genres and time periods. These sessions also give children frequent opportunities to experience making music using tuned and untuned instruments, working collaboratively or individually. Children also develop skills in composition and sometimes record these in basic graphic scores.

Singing assemblies enable the children to use their voices expressively and to develop singing in an ensemble and in rounds and with accompaniment.

KS1 children are also involved in an annual Nativity Performance which offers an opportunity to rehearse and perform multiple songs in different styles, singing along to professionally recorded backing tracks. There are also other opportunities throughout the year for parents and carers to come into school to enjoy other performances of songs and music that the children have been practising.

KS2

The children in KS2 enjoy a full music curriculum where the children are exposed to a variety of musical genres and instruments and have a range of opportunities to:

- pupils should be taught to sing and play musically with increasing confidence and control. They should develop an understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structures and reproducing sounds from aural memory.
- play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression
- improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music
- listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory
- appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians
- use and understand staff and other musical notations
- develop an understanding of the history of music.

These NC objectives are delivered through a 1 x 40 minute discrete music lesson every week, a 20 minute weekly departmental 'singing' assembly and a Christmas music performance. Both LKS2 and UKS2 departments also hold music performances in the summer term to showcase their musical learning from the year.

In KS2 children are exposed to and explore the form of a variety of music from around the world, significant musicians and the history of different musical genres through the use of the Sing Up music plans. Through this programme, they have opportunities to play various tuned and untuned instruments to practise musical notes, rhythms, chords and riffs and explore how different styles of music are structured. There are opportunities for composition and discussion and for children to talk about their own musical preferences and the children often sing, learning how to use their voices expressively.

All children in KS2 also learn how to play the recorder and this takes place during their weekly music lesson. This has been planned over a 4-year cycle to incrementally develop the children's understanding and use musical notation and their performance ability.

Weekly singing assemblies enable the children to use their voices expressively and to develop singing in an ensemble and with accompaniment.

Children in KS2 are also invited to join a school choir/singing group who perform at Christmas events in the local community and at other school events including the summer fayre. Every two years, the children in the KS2 choir have the opportunity to attend and participate in a Young Voices concert.

The KS2 children take part in a Christmas concert where they perform a variety of songs and recorder pieces to an audience. All children in KS2 are invited to participate

in summer performances for parents which showcase some of their musical learning from the year and separate LKS2 and UKS2 departmental music/drama performances take place annually.

Whole School

At key celebration events in a school year (e.g. Harvest, Christmas, end of year celebrations) the children have opportunities to sing/perform together as a whole school or to each other in departments. Our Christmas Carol service takes place in the local CofE church and our singing is accompanied by the church organ.

Resources

A central storage area for smaller tuned and un-tuned instruments is located in the Community Room. This includes 20 small glockenspiels and a small number of tambourines, triangles and small drums and wooden percussion blocks. There are two sets of Boomwhackers.

Larger instruments include two pianos, two guitars and a drum kit. There are also several keyboards available for use.

Part B: Music tuition, choirs and ensembles

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 Lessons

The school facilitates the delivery of music lessons provided by the Oxfordshire Music Hub. Currently at NKS, there are children receiving weekly music lessons for:

- guitar
- keyboard
- trumpet/brass

The children participate in 1:1 or small group lessons and have opportunities to work towards nationally recognised grades and awards during these sessions. These lessons are paid for by parents and Pupil Premium students can be subsidised, either in part or in full, by the school. The Oxfordshire Music Hub and consequently the range of instrument lessons provided is promoted through 'experience assemblies' and the school newsletter. Children can borrow/hire musical instruments from the Music Hub.

Drum therapy sessions currently timetabled for identified children (2023 onwards). This has had a significantly positive impact on the children participating in this and we are delighted that we will be continuing with this in September 2024.

Choirs/Singing Opportunities

Children in KS2 are invited to join a weekly choir/singing group which is led by an experienced member of the teaching staff. These sessions are free and last for an hour.

Children learn a variety of music and practise singing in unison, rounds and with individual solos or small groups leading call-and-response songs. Songs are often accompanied by professional backing tracks or other instruments.

This choir performs at Christmas events in the local community and at other school events including the summer fayre. Every two years, the children in the KS2 choir have the opportunity to attend and participate in a Young Voices concert.

Rehearsal Space

Due to the size of the school site, there is currently no designated rehearsal space. Children are keen to use and play instruments at breaktimes and UKS2 children are often allowed to use the drum kit located in one of the UKS2 classrooms at lunchtime.

Partnership Music Opportunities

In the 2023/2024 academic year, NKS has not participated in any partnership music activities.

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.

Singing

- Children perform alongside, and for each other, weekly in departmental singing assemblies.
- At key times of the year e.g. Harvest, Christmas and 'End of Year', the children perform for each other and for their families.
- Children in Reception perform for their families at their annual Christmas Play.
- Children in KS1 perform for their families at their annual Christmas Play.
- LKS2 children perform for their families at their Christmas music performance, their annual drama performance and during their end-of-year Summer music performance.

- UKS2 children perform for their families at their Christmas music performance, their annual drama performance and during their end of year Summer music performance.
- The KS2 choir performs for members of the Community at Christmas at the local 'Christmas Lights Switch On' event and at two local residential homes.
- The KS2 choir sings every two years at a [Young Voices](#) concert.

Instrumental performances

- Children in KS2 perform music on their recorders during their Christmas music performance and at their 'End of Summer Term' musical performance.

In the future

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

- Purchase of musical instruments which will enhance the teaching of music through the school. Xylophones, chime bars and more percussion instruments. Many of the instruments we currently have are broken or very tired.
- Investigate the creating of a practise space for children to use outside of lesson time. Many of the older children are keen to 'create bands' and to practise their skills.
- Extend the link with [CATS](#) who have recently donated a drum kit to the school.
- Invite musicians into school to perform for the children and talk about their musical experiences and to inspire.
- Increase the opportunities for visiting musicians and for children to go to listen to musical performances outside of the school
- Take part in more Oxfordshire and partnership music opportunities
- Work with local secondary schools on improving music provision at NKS
- Encouraging more children to take up learning another instrument through the Oxfordshire Music Hub

Further information

Link to the [Oxfordshire Music Hub](#) which provides information on musical experiences for young people in Oxfordshire and how to access music lessons.

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.