

Music development plan summary: Welbeck Academy

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Charlotte Hobson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Colleen Partis
Name of local music hub	
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.

All pupils receive a dedicated one-hour weekly music lesson, ensuring consistent access to enriching musical experiences.

We follow the Charanga Scheme of Work, which is fully aligned with the Model Music Curriculum and supports progression in key areas such as listening, composing, performing, and appraising.

Charanga enables pupils to explore a range of musical styles, genres, and traditions, while also building their confidence and musical vocabulary.

In Year 3, pupils learn to play the ukulele through specialist teaching delivered by a professional music teacher from Music Partnership North, our valued local music hub.

This partnership enriches our curriculum by offering expert instrumental tuition and supporting teacher development.

Additionally, we are proud to partner with Rocksteady Music School, who visit the school weekly to lead band-based music sessions. In these sessions, pupils have the opportunity to learn instruments such as guitar, drums, keyboard, and vocals, while developing teamwork, creativity, and performance skills in a fun and engaging way.

Singing is an integral part of our music curriculum. It is embedded throughout our weekly lessons and supported through school assemblies, performances, and special events. Children are encouraged to use their voices expressively and confidently, building both musical ability and self-esteem. Through these carefully planned experiences and partnerships, we aim to inspire a lifelong love of music and ensure that every child can access the many benefits music has to offer.

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 are proud to offer a rich and inclusive co-curricular music programme that complements our core curriculum and nurtures a love of music beyond the classroom. As part of our weekly curriculum, pupils have the opportunity to play the glockenspiel and explore digital music creation using YuStudio within the Charanga platform, fostering both instrumental and compositional skills.

Beyond classroom learning, we offer a range of opportunities for pupils to develop their musical talents further. These include:

- Vocal Ensemble Clubs, which provide a fun, supportive environment for children to develop their singing skills and experience group performance.
- Weekly sessions with Rocksteady Music School, where pupils form their own bands and learn to play instruments such as guitar, drums, keyboard, and vocals while building teamwork and stage confidence.
- Access to small-group or individual instrumental and vocal tuition delivered by visiting specialist teachers. Instruments offered vary and are subject to demand and availability.

We are committed to making music accessible to all. While instrumental tuition may incur a cost, we offer financial support for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium funding, ensuring no child is excluded from the opportunity to learn an instrument due to financial barriers.

Welbeck Academy continues to work closely with Music Partnership North, our local music hub, who support both our curriculum and co-curricular offer. This partnership enhances our provision by connecting us with professional musicians, workshop leaders, and further opportunities within the wider local music community.

Through these varied and inclusive co-curricular experiences, we aim to ensure that every child can find their place in music, whether through performance, creativity, or collaboration.

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.

At Welbeck Academy, we believe that musical enrichment plays a vital role in inspiring creativity, building confidence, and giving pupils memorable, high-quality experiences both in and beyond school. Throughout the academic year, pupils are involved in a wide range of musical events and performances, which provide opportunities to showcase their learning and engage with the wider community. These include:

- Annual school performances, including:
 - Harvest Festival, where pupils from across the school participate in seasonal songs and performances for our school community.
 - Christmas Nativity - a festive performance combining singing, acting and narration.
 - Year 6 Leavers' Show, a celebratory end-of-year production involving musical numbers and solo opportunities, allowing pupils to reflect on their primary journey.

In addition to in-school performances, we are proud to offer pupils the chance to perform at external events and concerts through our partnership with Music Partnership North. These opportunities include:

- The Big Gig, where pupils perform alongside others from schools across the region in a professionally staged concert.
- Newcastle Sings, a large-scale vocal event that celebrates collective singing and brings pupils together in an uplifting musical experience.
- Other local and regional performances, which vary year by year and allow pupils to represent our school in exciting public venues.

Participation in these events is carefully planned to include a wide range of year groups. While some events are whole-school, others are targeted at specific key stages or groups (such as vocal ensembles or Year 6 performers). Pupils take part either as performers or enthusiastic audience members, depending on the nature of the event. These enriching musical experiences are integral to our wider vision—to ensure every child at Welbeck Academy can access and enjoy the power of music in meaningful and memorable ways.

In the future

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

We aim to further strengthen our music provision through a progressive and inclusive curriculum that enables all pupils to develop musical knowledge, skills and creativity. Plans include inviting industry professionals to deliver workshops and masterclasses and building links with local secondary schools through visits to their performing arts departments, ensuring pupils experience aspirational pathways beyond primary.

We will continue to develop staff subject knowledge and confidence, widen participation through ensembles, and instrumental lessons, ensuring equitable access for all pupils, including those with SEND. The impact of these developments will be monitored through pupil voice, assessment of musical progress, participation rates and the quality of performances.

Our long-term vision is to embed music as a valued and integral part of school life, celebrated within the community and supporting pupils' personal, social and cultural development.