Music development plan summary:
Marlborough 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	Mrs Sarah Pearson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Services For Education
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Charanga

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.

Marlborough Primary School use a spiral curriculum and meets the requirements of the Model Music Curriculum (MMC) through the adoption of the Charanga on-line Music scheme. This music scheme is delivered from Reception – Year 6 (excluding Year 4), by class teachers. We use the Charanga scheme of work because it provides a balanced and progression-focussed music curriculum, which activates prior knowledge and creates links between ideas. We aim to develop oracy and broaden the children's vocabulary in order to communicate their musical knowledge effectively by using correct terminology.

All year groups are taught in line with the Charanga New Creative Curriculum Scheme, except Year 4 who have whole class instrumental teaching from Birmingham Music Services. Currently children from Reception and Years 1,2,3,5 and 6 receive a weekly,

45 minute music lesson (in addition to this all children in years 1-6 also sing every week in whole school assembly).

In music lessons children are taught to sing, appraise a wide range of music and read, play, compose and improvise music on glockenspiels. Each lesson follows the Charanga scheme and has a focus on listening, appraising, improvising and composing music across a range of genres. Children work towards an end-of-unit performance to showcase the songs they have learnt.

In Year 4 all children are taught to play an instrument by a specialist music teacher from Services for Education (our music hub). This is funded entirely by the school, parents do not need to contribute. Children receive a weekly 1-hour lesson for the year where they will learn to play either the baritone or cornet, fife/flute or clarinet. At Christmas and the end of the school year the children perform a concert to their parents showing the progression of their skills.

In Year 6, pupils use YuStudio to further develop their musical knowledge, creativity and confidence through digital music-making. This provides opportunities to explore composition, experiment with sounds and use technology to create and develop their own musical ideas.

Our pupils with SEND, who are based in our 'Shooting Stars' Resource Hub, access music through planned music interactions led by an expert teacher from Services for Education.

EYFS pupils follow a bespoke, Kodaly inspired curriculum, focussing on building musical foundations and supporting language development. In EYFS music is an integral part of children's learning journey. Children learn a wide range of songs and rhymes and develop skills for performing together. Singing and music making opportunities are used frequently to embed learning, develop musical awareness and to demonstrate how music can be used to express feelings. Our nursery pupils have daily access to choose to experiment with sound through a range of percussion instruments and an outside music wall. They learn to sing a wide range of simple songs and rhymes by heart.

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.

At Marlborough Primary School, we aim to provide children with a range of musical experiences beyond their timetabled music lessons, fostering a love of music and encouraging participation across the school.

- During whole school phased weekly assemblies, children are given the opportunity to listen to different genres through our Musician of the Term. These tracks are played at the start and end of each assembly and the children learn interesting facts about their life, work and musical contributions. These experiences broaden children's musical knowledge, expose them to a variety of musical styles and inspire them to explore music further. Before the weekly assembly finishes children all sing a values related song together.
- Choir – The music lead runs a choir each week where children from every class in Year 5 and 6 who express a desire to join can come along. Through regular rehearsals and performance opportunities, choir members develop a sense of teamwork and pride in their musical achievements, while contributing to the wider musical life of the school. The choir perform at each end of term concert as well as supporting singing in whole school phased assemblies.
- This year the school has once again joined Young Voices and the choir will have the opportunity to join other school choirs performing at The BP Live arena, Birmingham.

Through these opportunities, Marlborough Primary School encourages children to develop their musical appreciation, confidence and enjoyment of music beyond the classroom.

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.

- Musician of the Term – every half term the children are introduced to a different musician across a range of genres and include both historical and modern-day musicians. Some are composers, others are singers and or musicians. Class teachers introduce these musicians and their music through their music lessons and the children get to listen and talk about them at the beginning of whole school, phased assemblies weekly.
- Birmingham music services summer concert – when the opportunity arises, children in Year 3 can attend the Youth Proms at Birmingham Symphony Hall (Summer 2). This is a concert arranged by our hub provider, Services for Education and we use it as an opportunity to prepare and enthuse our children before they begin to learn an instrument in Year 4.
- Mother's Day Assembly – All EYFS children take part in a Mother's Day Assembly, singing and performing to their parents.
- Visiting pantomime – Annually, the children enjoy a pantomime production from a visiting Performing Arts Group.

- Year Group Assemblies – every class (Year 2 – 5) produces an assembly over the course of the year with the expectation that the children learn and perform a song, using instruments where appropriate. The assemblies are performed to their parents and children in their year group.
- Nativity Production – Year 1 children perform an annual Nativity that includes singing and use of instruments. They perform to their parents, Reception and KS1 children.
- Year 4 – The peripatetic teachers from Services for Education organise concerts for the parents of our Year 4 children at Christmas and the end of the school year. These concerts enable the children to celebrate their skills and show the progress they have made with their instruments across the year.
- Year 6 Leavers Production – The children are involved in the planning, choreography and production of their leaver's assembly. Last Year they performed Aladdin. The productions are chosen for their music, songs, humour and interest.
- End of term performances – In the run-up to the end of every term, each year group has an opportunity to practise a song of their choice which is then performed in mixed year group 'Sing-Along' assemblies. The songs are either to celebrate Christmas, Spring or the end of the school year.

In the future

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

Over the next 2-3 years we plan to:

- Continue to improve and develop the use of music in EYFS settings.
- We will look for opportunities within our Trust to hold collaborative musical events – instrumental and/or choir.
- We will look for opportunities within our local community/area for the choir to perform at celebratory events.
- Re-introduce weekly singing assemblies.
- Possible introduction of a Year Group residential trip for a Performing Arts/Music experience.
- Possible opportunity to enable the peripatetic teachers from Services for Education to split their time between Year 4 and Year 5, enabling last year's year 4 cohort to continue their instrument learning.
- Opportunity for all pupils to enjoy an annual live performance (this could be on the school site or visit to local venue).

Further information (optional)

Services for Education (Birmingham Music Service)
https://www.servicesforeducation.co.uk/music-services-in-schools/

City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra https://cbso.co.uk/take-part

Department for Education guide for parents and young people
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parentsand-young-people

Birmingham Contemporary Music Group
https://www.bcmg.org.uk/Pages/Category/schools-early-years