



Music development plan summary, 2024-2025

George Street Nursery and Primary

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	May, 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September, 2025
Name of the school music lead	I. Bunclark
Name of local music hub	Hertfordshire Music Service

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.

At George Street we follow the scheme of work from The Oak National Academy, which is supplemented in our curriculum by two key documents from the Herts Music Service: Singing Progression and Progress in Musical Skills. These are all written from the National Curriculum and are carefully pitched and paced inline with children's ages and experience levels across the whole school, from the Early Years Foundation Stage, to Year 6. Key areas of musical learning are covered across year groups, and regularly revisited in a structured way, in order to constantly review and build upon skills. This also means that children are continually challenged as they gain skills and understanding. These include pitch, dynamics, rhythm, pulse, and texture. In Upper Key Stage 2, children learn about more complex concepts, such as structure, harmony and tonality. They find out about music from different nationalities and genres and significant historical composers.

In our lessons, all children are encouraged to perform confidently. Singing runs through the majority of lessons, as well as many opportunities to practise body percussion, and percussion using tuned and untuned instruments. Within each unit of the Oak National Academy's scheme, there are 6 lessons, whose objectives break the topic into concise steps. In our curriculum, the Progression of Musical Skills and Singing Progress documents add further detail to broaden and deepen the children's experiences. Teachers follow the structure of the scheme, which also serves to build confidence in the coverage of technical knowledge, and are able to expand upon it to pause and practise skills, or include additional songs and activities based on the lesson's objective. Our SEND children participate as fully in music lessons as possible and where children work outside of the whole-class environment, music and songs are used throughout the day, to build language, independence, counting and listening skills, as well as for enjoyment.

This year, as for the last three years, Year 5's have weekly hour-long lessons from a visiting specialist peripatetic music teacher, from the Hertfordshire Music Service, through First Access. This year, they are learning to play the violin. They perform at the Christmas and Spring Concerts, and at the end of the year, their parents are invited to their own end of year performance. Their music curriculum builds skills in pitch, rhythm, playing together and performance, specific to the violin. Our whole-school curriculum is therefore adapted to ensure that all Oak National Academy objectives are met across the Key Stage.

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.

Our school choir meets once a week after school during the Autumn and Spring Terms, and performs their pieces at each of the Harvest, Christmas and Spring concerts. They also regularly perform at our local Supported Residence.

Music lessons are offered to the children every term and we currently have a piano teacher who comes in to teach 1:1 once a week. We subsidise the lessons for our Pupil Premium and PLAC children.

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.

In addition to music lessons in class, children sing in our Monday and Friday assemblies, and Key Stage 1 and 2 have a 20 minute singing assembly once a week. During the Summer term, this year, we are using the Herts Music Service e-songbook 'Off-We-go' to give a structure of progressive skills, with each song focusing on a skill such as singing voices, call and response and pitch-matching to the 'so-mi' toneset.

During Autumn 1, assemblies are aimed at practising songs for our annual Harvest Festival. This is held at our local church and is attended by classes from reception to Year 6. During Autumn 2, Key Stages 1 and 2 have separate singing assemblies, as KS1 practises for their Nativity Performance, and KS2 practise for their Carol Concert. The Carol Concert is also held at the local church during one evening in December, and we hold a rehearsal session at the church beforehand. Nursery, Reception and KS1 perform their Nativity three times: once to the rest for the school and twice to families. Nursery and Reception each have a song that they perform on the stage in front of the audience, and they also join in with some of the other songs. At the end of Spring term, we invite families to our Spring Concert, at school, which includes all classes and is split into Nursery-Year 2, and Years 3-6. At the end of the summer term, there is an end of year performance from Year 6, and a violin performance from Year 5.

Once a year, we organise for a visit to a show and / or for a show to come to school. This is often a Christmas Pantomime, although this year, July 2025, EYFS - yr6 will have The Wizard of Oz performed at school.

Our choir is offered the opportunity to attend the Voice in a Million event or Echoes, in London, for which they practise the set songs. We also arrange for some of our Pupil Premium children to attend a theatrical show in London once a year.

In the future

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

We continue to build our choir, adding to the number of children and the range of experiences for them. We hope to continue to be able to arrange for professional musicians and local secondary school pupils to visit and perform for us, as we have done in the past. We are in the process of arranging a musical workshop from the Hertfordshire Music Service, with the intent to lead into a lunchtime club. This year, we will be producing Knowledge Organisers for each unit of music in our curriculum, from Year 1-6, which will further solidify the progression of skills and knowledge and aid teachers in their planning and assessment for learning.