

**Music development plan summary:
Benedict Biscop CE Academy**

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	Autumn 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	Summer 2027
Name of the school music lead	Rebecca Simmons
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Matt Allison
Name of local music hub	Sunderland Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Musical Mates

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.

Music at Benedict Biscop

At Benedict Biscop, we believe that **with God, all things are possible**. We want every child to aspire, achieve highly and discover their own potential. Through music, we aim to develop confident, creative and enthusiastic musicians who build knowledge, skills and a lifelong love of music. We believe that singing is "The Golden Thread" which runs through all of our curriculum.

Curriculum Music

Our Early Years provision provides the foundations for our whole-school music curriculum and ensures that the **Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage** is fully covered. As children progress through the school, our curriculum follows the **DfE Model Music Curriculum**, ensuring full coverage of the National Curriculum.

We have personalised our curriculum using units from **Charanga**, carefully sequencing learning across each year group. In Key Stage 1 and Lower Key Stage 2, a mixed-age curriculum cycle supports our provision while ensuring that children experience a broad and progressive programme of musical learning.

The interrelated dimensions of music are revisited regularly, providing a strong foundation for children to develop both their musical knowledge and practical skills. Learning is built around the key areas of:

- **Listen and Appraise** – developing an understanding and appreciation of a wide range of music.
- **Musical Activities** – exploring pulse, rhythm and other elements of music.
- **Singing and Voice** – developing confidence, expression and vocal technique.
- **Playing Instruments** – learning and developing instrumental skills.
- **Improvisation and Composition** – encouraging children to create, explore and develop their own musical ideas.
- **Perform and Share** – developing confidence through opportunities to perform for others.

Together, these areas ensure that children develop the key aspects of the DfE Model Music Curriculum, including **musicianship, singing, listening, composing and performing**.

Children also have opportunities to develop their instrumental skills through whole-class teaching. Across the school, these opportunities include **recorder, glockenspiel, ukulele and digital audio GarageBand and YUMU workstation**.

Music is taught by a **specialist music teacher for one hour each week**, with musical learning also embedded within continuous provision in EYFS.

In Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, lessons take place in classrooms, providing opportunities for collaboration, practical music-making and performance.

For further information, including our curriculum overview, please visit the **Benedict Biscop school website**.

[Benedict Biscop \(benedictbiscopacademy.co.uk\)](http://benedictbiscopacademy.co.uk)

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.

Co-curricular Music

Music at Benedict Biscop extends beyond the classroom. We aim to provide every child with opportunities to sing, play, perform and experience music as a means of expression, creativity and spiritual development.

Music plays an important role in our worship. Throughout the school day, children experience a diverse range of music, including **Celtic music, choral music, organ pieces and contemporary worship songs**. This is incorporated into whole-school worship assemblies as well as worship within individual classrooms, allowing music to contribute to our children's spiritual experience.

We also value the importance of developing children's cultural experiences through music. We carefully plan opportunities for children to attend **performances, concerts and workshops** within our local area and wider region. These experiences allow children to encounter live music, broaden their musical horizons and develop a passion for music that can continue throughout their lives.

Our co-curricular opportunities include:

- Choir
- Performing Arts Club

- Instrumental tuition, including guitar, keyboard and drums
- Opportunities to attend live performances, workshops and concerts
- Opportunities to perform alongside other schools and musicians

In recent years, BB Fest has also featured staff showcases and performances from our school music teacher's band. These experiences provide positive musical role models for our children and demonstrate the enjoyment that music can bring at every stage of life.

Choir and Performing Arts club

Our choir has a range of opportunities to perform to wider audiences. Each year, they take part in our Trust's **One Voice** choir event, as well as local Christmas concerts. These events allow our children to perform alongside pupils from other schools, develop their confidence and experience the excitement of performing to a larger audience.

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.

Alongside our music curriculum, we strive to provide children with a range of enriching musical experiences and performance opportunities.

Each year, we aim to offer the following opportunities:

- **Trust-Wide One Voice Choir** – This event gives children the chance to perform both in smaller groups and as part of a larger choir alongside pupils from across the trust. Children enjoy performing with a live band, as well as watching fellow pupils and staff showcase their musical talents and instrumental skills.
- **BB Fest** – A school-wide music festival held on the school field, where every pupil has the opportunity to take part. Children perform songs as class groups and as a whole school, celebrating and showcasing the musical skills they have developed throughout the year. Pupils who learn musical instruments are also encouraged to perform alongside their peers.
- **Performing Arts Club** – The club provides children with opportunities to develop their confidence, creativity, and performance skills. Last year, members staged a production of *Annie* for family and friends. This year, we are working towards an end-of-year performance that will showcase the talents and achievements of our pupils.
- **Musical instrument performances** – Each year, we showcase the musical skills and talents that children have developed through their guitar, keyboard, and drum lessons.
- **Pupil-Led Community Worship** – Each week, members of the community are invited to join us for worship, where pupils have the opportunity to sing and participate in acts of praise. Throughout the year, every class takes responsibility for leading a worship session, providing children with a valuable opportunity to share and celebrate their musical talents with others.

In the future

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

- Moving forward, we aim to further develop our music curriculum by increasing opportunities for pupils to perform, compose, and appreciate a wider range of musical genres and cultures. We will continue to

strengthen staff confidence in delivering high-quality music lessons, expand access to instrumental tuition, and explore partnerships with local musicians and music organisations.

- Our goal is to ensure that all children develop a love of music, build their musical skills progressively, and have opportunities to showcase their talents both within school and the wider community.
- In future we would like to further improve our musical offer and provide a wider range of musical opportunities across our curriculum.
- We would like to increase our musical tuition offer to engage more pupils, particularly Key Stage 1.