

Music development plan summary: Benedict Biscop CE Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	Autumn 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	Summer 2026
Name of the school music lead	Samantha Sandland
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.

At Benedict Biscop we want our children to learn that with God all things are possible. We want our children to aspire and to achieve highly. We want our children to develop as musicians, developing music knowledge and skills.

Our early years is the starting point for our whole school Music curriculum. It ensures that the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage is covered. Our curriculum then follows the DFE Model Music Curriculum ensuring National Curriculum compliance.

The school have personalised their curriculum using units from Charanga. The scheme ensures learning in music is sequenced throughout each year group. Within Key Stage

1 and lower Key Stage 2 we offer a cycle mixed age curriculum to support our mixed age provision.

The interrelated dimensions of music are mapped out clearly to ensure that they are revisited constantly. This provides an effective base on which all other musical learning can be built. The following learning sequence/activities allow both substantive and disciplinary knowledge to be developed across the 3 pillars of music:

1. Listen and Appraise
2. Musical Activities (including pulse and rhythm)
3. Singing and Voice
4. Playing instruments
5. Improvisation / Composition
6. Perform and Share

This ensures that the key elements of the DFE Model music are covered [e.g. Musicianship, Singing, Listening, Composing and Performance].

Within the curriculum there are opportunities for whole class instrumental learning within each year group including: recorder, glockenspiel, ukulele and Garageband.

Children are taught music by a specialist music teacher for 1 hour a week or equivalent within EYFS continuous provision. Lessons in Key Stage 1 and 2 are taught in classrooms allowing for collaborative work and a live audience for performances.

For more information and for our curriculum overview, please see our 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.

Through our use of music outside of the curriculum, we aim to provide a spiritual experience for all children. They are given the opportunity to use music to express themselves and show individual spirituality. Within the school day children are exposed to a range of music as a form of religious worship including: Celtic, choral, organ pieces and contemporary worship songs. These experiences include whole school worship assemblies and worship time within classrooms.

As we want our children to have a rich cultural experience, we carefully plan additional opportunities into our curriculum for children to attend performances and workshops

within our locality and region. This helps our children to gain real-life experiences, developing a passion for music they can take with them for life. These include: Choir, Performing Arts Club and instrumental lessons [such as guitar, keyboard and drums].

Every year, we host an outdoor music festival on our school field, attended by members of the local community. This has become referred to over the years as 'BB Fest.' Children are given the opportunity to perform songs collectively as classes and as a whole school – showcasing the talents they have nurtured and developed throughout the year. Several of our pupils learn a musical instrument and perform alongside their peers at the event. In recent years we have hosted staff showcases and our music teacher band – helping to provide positive role models locally for our pupils.

Our Choir is given the opportunity to attend our annual Trust 'One Voice' choir event and local Christmas concerts, providing them the opportunity to perform with other schools and to a wider 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 curriculum we like to provide opportunities for children to take part in additional musical opportunities.

Annually we aim to provide the following opportunities:

- **Trust wide 'One Voice Choir.'** This event allows children to not only perform on a small level but also as a whole ensemble with children from around the trust. Within this event children perform alongside a live band and watch other children and staff members perform and play musical instruments.
- **'BB Fest.'** A music festival hosted by all the pupils in the school on the school field. Children are given the opportunity to perform songs collectively as classes and as a whole school – showcasing the talents they have nurtured and developed throughout the year. Several of our pupils learn a musical instrument and perform alongside their peers at the event.
- **Performing Arts club.** Last year the club performed Annie as their end of year performance which family and friends were invited to attend. This year we are aiming for an end of year performance which will showcase our talents.
- **Pupil led community worship.** Each week the community is invited to worship where pupils have the opportunity to sing and praise. Throughout the year, each class has the opportunity to lead a worship and part of this involves showcasing their musical talents.

In the future

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

Use this space to include any information on any improvements you plan to make for subsequent years in curriculum music, co-curricular music or musical experiences, including when you plan to introduce changes.

Also consider including:

- any information that relates to the 7 features of high-quality music provision (see the text box at the beginning of the template), such as increasing lesson time to one hour a week each term, introducing the teaching of new instruments or having a termly school performance.

Further information (optional)

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. We are hoping that we will then be able to offer them opportunities to further develop their skills through extra-curricular clubs e.g., school band.