Music development plan summary: Fens Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	Autumn term 2027
Name of the school music lead	Joanne Sibly
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Tees Valley Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady

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.

More detail about the music provision at Fens Primary School can be found on our school website page online:

Music

Children receive the equivalent of one hour per week of Music teaching, which is sometimes 'blocked' and sometimes weekly or fortnightly.

The lessons are carefully planned in accordance with the school's Music curriculum alongside supporting resources from our music hubs. The curriculum ensures consistency and progression from EYFS through to Year 6. We have lots of resources within school and teachers use tuned and untunes instruments to support their music teaching. Children in Year 1 and 2 focus on rhythm using samba drums and tuned bars, in Year 3 children look at musical notation to support in the teaching of recorders (Year 4) and keyboards (Year 5).

Music lessons are further supplemented by whole-school or key stage assemblies, where children sing together once a week.

Music lessons are also supplemented by annual Christmas performances whereby the entire school rehearse and perform a number of songs every year.

Children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 sing every day alongside their music sessions. EYFS also supplement their music curriculum with Christmas performances.

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 have a thriving Key Stage 2 choir who rehearse weekly and perform regularly within Autumn term and Summer term, at local events and in-school events. This includes community events, such as in the local care home, outside of Tesco and at an annual Christmas Tree Festival. The choir is free of charge with all pupils having an opportunity throughout Key Stage 2 to be involved. We also offer Key Stage 1 the opportunity to be part of a choir, rehearsing weekly and performing as part of a community event during the Spring term. This choir is free of charge.

Children across the school have the opportunity to take private piano, Brass, String or drum lessons through Tees Valley Music Hub. The children receive a demonstration from the specialist music teachers at the beginning of each year. Through this, they are entered into ABRSM exams.

Children also have the opportunity to take part in a rock band. Children received specialist music lessons each week, the children have the opportunity to play guitar, drums, keyboard and also sing. Each band creates their own names and chooses their own song for the term. At the end of each term the children play to the school and to their parents in our concert. Parents can track the progress of each pupil on the online portal. While these lessons are private and paid for by parents, pupil premium subsidies are available.

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.

The children receive a wide range of musical experiences. This starts from watching each other perform as part of choir, ensemble or individually, in assemblies on a regular basis.

Children in Key Stage 1 attend ‘Snappy Spring’ with TVMS every year and this involves learning a range of songs together and performing alongside hundreds of other children from local schools at Thornaby Pavillion or Hartlepool Borough Hall, attended by a large audience of families and carers. Children in Key Stage 2 attend ‘Snappy Christmas’ and ‘Snappy Summer’ which involves a wide range of song-types and a full day of rehearsal and performance alongside the other schools and has been attended by the Mayor.

Rocksteady children perform to school and parents each term. Showcasing their musical talents.

The full school have watched a Pantomime within school which involves musical performances.

All children from Nursery to Y6 perform a Christmas performance annually which includes singing and drama performances.

Year 6 children perform a Leavers’ Performance annually to both school and parents, showcasing singing skills.

Choir perform regularly throughout the year – whether to school, at the local care home, Christmas events. They choose music to link with themed weeks such as 1960’s themed week for our school celebration.

Year 6 children visit the local secondary school annually to watch their Musical Production.

In the future

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

Next academic year, Music visits and outreach will be explored further, including opportunities for musicians to visit school and perform and for more year groups to travel to professional venues.

More opportunities for pupils to take part in extra-curricular groups which involve playing instruments. Opportunities for pupils to play keyboard, recorders and samba drumming.