Music development plan summary: Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	4th September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	4th September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Susanna Glaser
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Royal Greenwich Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady, RGTS

Please find below 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

Cherry Orchard uses a curriculum based on online music platform Sing Up Music topped up with complimentary sessions based on the LSO and LPO schools programmes which incorporate children watching live orchestral performances linked to the music they've been studying.

Lessons at Cherry Orchard follow an established, consistent structure that is practical, interactive and allow children to apply and develop their knowledge and interpretation of all key musical skills: listening, appraising, improvising, composing and performing.

The curriculum is carefully designed to meet the needs of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (Expressive Arts), the National Curriculum for Music and suggested approaches of the Model Music Curriculum (Singing, Listening, Composing, Performance/Instrumental Performance).

An overview of our Music Curriculum is available here.

Wherever necessary Cherry Orchard adapts music teaching to be accessible for disabled pupils and pupils with special educational needs (SEND). You can read more about what we do as a school here:

Disability Access Plan

SEND information report

We are committed to putting Equity, Diversity and Inclusion at the heart of what we do, aspiring to ensure all our children receive high quality and inspirational music provision which reflects and enriches our community.

All classes receive a curriculum music lesson for a minimum of 30 minutes a week (20 minutes for EYFS).

Selected year groups receive whole class instrumental teaching for at least a term which are cost free:

Year 3: Djembes and Ukelele (new for 2024, provided by RGTS)

Year 5&6: Ukelele

We are also a member of the Royal Greenwich Music Service which provides highly subsidised ukelele hire (for our instrumental teaching), termly training and networking opportunities for our music department and opportunities for our young people to take part in large-scale performances such as the choir at Singing Spectacular.

Part B: Music tuition, choirs and ensembles

Pupils learn about a diverse array of music makers through our ‘Musician of the Month’ series presented during singing assemblies and topped up with classroom resources. Past Musicians of the Month have included David Bowie, Aretha Franklin, Florence Price and Joni Mitchell.

There is a free choir available for pupils in Key Stage 2 which performs at school and at local events including the Singing Spectacular and at the 02 with Young Voices.

Children are given the opportunity to learn keyboards, drums, guitar and vocals as part of an ensemble with Rocksteady including a termly performance. Pupil progression is rewarded with Ofqual related qualifications from Rocksteady and Trinity College London for their skills obtained in the lessons. Parents pay an affordable monthly fee for the tuition, while Rocksteady provide free pupil premium places.

Professional music workshop providers are sourced yearly and are free to enjoy, for instance in 2023 all classes enjoyed djembe drumming workshops.

Children can enjoy playground music playlists during lunchtimes.

Part C: Musical experiences

Pupils take part in weekly whole school singing assemblies.

There are regular performances programmed throughout the year for the whole school to showcase their music learning to parent/carers (included within class assemblies, Winter, Spring and Summer Performances including our recent whole school Summer Sing-A-Long and the Year 6 production)

Pupils are regularly taken to see professional concerts such as by the LSO at the Barbican and LPO at the South Bank as part of their music curriculum teaching units. These events are paid for by parents but are heavily subsidised with no child denied access due to financial reasons.

We invite professional and high quality student performances (for instance, from Trinity Laban) to our school for all our children to enjoy. These events are free to all.

This year (2024) there will also be an opportunity to collaborate on performances with secondary school students at RGTS.

In the future

For subsequent years the school is planning to:

- Increase its timetabled curriculum music for Key Stage 2 to 40 minute lessons.
- To embed songs and games learned during lessons into the wider day including for instance, at the beginning of the day, or as a focussing activity following play or break time, or during transition times such as waiting in line for dinner or assembly.
- Increase pupil access to free and/or affordable individual lessons across a wider range of instruments including voice.
- To programme a Music Day to promote, celebrate and share the power of music.
- To make sure we have an area of our school which promotes and celebrates our music learning, talent and achievements.
- To build on our aspiration of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion as part of our Whole School Development Plan by continually reviewing and developing our music offering to fully encompass all members of our community.

Further information:

Our link with the Royal Greenwich Music Service provides constant access to support with:

- Audit of provision
- Whole school music curriculum quality assurance
- Curriculum planning

and more, ensuring our music offering is always the absolute best we can provide.

Please find a link here to the National Plan for Music Education and what it means for parents and young people here.