

Music development plan summary: Windmill Primary School Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Sarah Reading
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Andy Howe (headteacher)
Name of local music hub	Oxfordshire County Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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 has a very important place at the heart of school life at Windmill, both in the classroom and in an extra-curricular setting. We recognise that the aural and creative skills required for music making are intrinsic to every area of the curriculum. We value the role that music plays in developing self-confidence, creativity, emotional intelligence, cultural understanding and a sense of achievement in every child. We also recognise the contribution that singing together makes to general well-being.

At Windmill, we follow a curriculum based on the National Curriculum Programmes of Study alongside ideas that are informed by the model music curriculum (March 2021). Lessons cover the strands of performing – including singing, composing, listening and appraising and applying knowledge and understanding, addressing the musical concepts of pitch, rhythm, dynamics, timbre, texture and form and structure. Where possible, the Music Curriculum is taught in a context that links closely to the class Topic, exploring them in a creative way and further developing and deepening understanding and knowledge. Planning is also supported by the *Sing Up* resources.

Music lessons are taught for every class (Reception to Year 6), every week by a specialist Music Teacher in a dedicated Music Room. Lessons range between 30 and 60 minutes depending on age. Musical learning is supplemented by weekly singing assemblies lasting 30 minutes.

Children in Year 4 learn an instrument (currently the clarinet) as a whole-class ensemble taught by music specialists from Oxfordshire County Music Service as part of the Wider Opportunities programme. Year 3 children are introduced to the recorder whilst Year 5 are introduced to drumming and Year 6 spend time learning the ukulele as a whole-class ensemble.

Part B: Extra 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.

At Windmill Primary School, we currently offer high-quality individual and small-group instrumental tuition through Oxfordshire Music Service. The choice offered includes all families of orchestral instruments; strings, woodwind, brass, percussion and piano/keyboard. Peripatetic Music Teachers visit our school and teach children in dedicated spaces around the building.

We have a growing School Choir and Orchestra, both available for pupils across Key Stage Two as well as a weekly ukulele club open to all pupils. Ensembles are given opportunities across the year to perform both in and out of school.

Further musical opportunities are available through the iRock School of Music. Pupils are offered 30-minute rock and pop band sessions with a focus on teamwork, confidence and social skills. Sessions are led by expert musicians and work to inspire and empower the pupils who attend.

Individual and small group lessons are funded by parents, however, for those children who are Pupil Premium, these lessons can be funded by the Pupil Premium provision. All ensembles are free and accessible to all.

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.

Children at Windmill Primary School are given the opportunity to perform or experience high quality music throughout the academic year.

Every year, each year group takes part in a musical production in which singing plays a key role and all children are given the opportunity to perform on stage. These include:

- Year 6 end of year performance
- Year 2 Christmas Nativity
- Year 1 Christmas singing performance accompanied by the school orchestra
- Year 4 perform a musical production at the end of the Spring Term
- Year 3 tell stories to music and songs
- Year 5 put on a musical performance
- Reception sing and dance to an audience at Christmas

All Key Stage Two pupils take part in a Christmas Concert which includes some small ensemble groups. The Summer Concert highlights those children who receive individual or group instrumental lessons as well as orchestra, choir and other musical clubs.

School Choir take part in the Big Christmas and the Big Summer Sing in association with the Oxfordshire Music Service. These involve an afternoon rehearsal and evening performance in a large venue with school children from other settings around the county.

School Choir also perform yearly in the Festival of Voices at Dorchester Abbey.

School Choir visit a Care Home at Christmas to perform carols and Christmas songs to the residents.

There have been musical performances at school fundraising events.

In the future

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

In future years, our Music Development Plan aims to achieve the following:

- Continue to engage with the Oxfordshire Music Service to bring further large-scale events to the experience of pupils.
- Look to increase opportunities for children to perform onsite and offsite.
- Build on the listening and appraising aspect of music lessons to ensure there is a variety of musical genres across a variety of composers and periods of time.
- Organise opportunities for live musical performances for pupils to watch and enjoy either in or out of school.