

High Spen Primary School

Music Development Plan



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Date to be reviewed - Sept 2026

Summary Overview High Spen primary School.

We are committed to delivering a vibrant and comprehensive music education program that nurtures the musical talents of all our pupils. Our music curriculum is designed to be fun, engaging, and progressive, building upon students' prior knowledge while inspiring them to explore new musical horizons.

We are proud to work in partnership with our regional music hub to deliver a program that aligns with the national curriculum, ensuring our students receive a well-rounded musical education. Our aim is to inspire emerging musicians who can interpret and recognize a diverse range of music and musicians

Our music program focuses on three key areas:

1. *Curriculum Music:* We provide structured lessons that develop students' musical skills and knowledge.
2. *Co-curricular Music:* We offer various opportunities for students to participate in choirs, ensembles, music clubs to further develop skills.
3. *Musical Experiences:* We organize a variety of musical events, concerts, and trips to enrich our students' musical journey

Throughout our program, we emphasize the development of strong composition, improvisation, and singing skills. All of this is delivered within a supportive and engaging environment that encourages creativity and musical growth.

This summary outlines our current music education offerings and our plans for future development, providing pupils, parents, and carers with a clear understanding of the musical opportunities available at our school.

Curriculum Music

We provide a comprehensive and inclusive music education program as part of our core curriculum. Our approach ensures that all students, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), have access to high-quality music instruction.

Lesson Structure

- Each class receives a rotated one-hour lesson of dedicated music instruction per week.
- Lessons are designed to be accessible and engaging for all children, with appropriate accommodations made for SEND students.

Digital Composition

Our curriculum incorporates modern music technology:

- Students learn to use digital music production using Ableton music.
- Integration of technology with traditional music-making.

Partnership

We are proud to collaborate with the *Gateshead Music Hub*, which provides:

- Additional resources and expertise
- Access to a wider range of specialists
- Opportunities for students to participate in local music events

Progression and Assessment

- Students' musical skills are regularly assessed through practical demonstrations and performances.
- We use a progressive curriculum that builds on prior knowledge and skills year-on-year.
- Opportunities for students to showcase their learning through in-class performances and school concerts.

Our curriculum music program aims to develop well-rounded musicians who are confident in both traditional and contemporary music-making practices. By providing a solid foundation in music education, we prepare our students for potential further study and lifelong enjoyment of music.

Co-curricular Music

We offer a range of co-curricular music activities that complement our core curriculum, allowing students to further develop their musical talents and build upon skills learned in regular classes.

School Choir

Weekly lunchtime sessions feature performances including annual Christmas concerts and community outreach events. Participating in the choir helps students enhance their vocal techniques and ensemble skills through collaborative singing. Students develop increased confidence by performing in public and strengthen their ability to work as a team. The choir experience also reinforces music reading abilities learned in classroom instruction, providing a practical application of theoretical knowledge.

Music Club

After-school sessions held once a week for one hour focus on advanced instrument instruction, digital music exploration, improvisation techniques, and collaborative music-making. Students deepen their instrumental proficiency beyond classroom instruction, expanding their creativity through innovative approaches to composition and performance. The club environment allows students to strengthen problem-solving skills through group work, culminating in a final performance that significantly boosts self-esteem and performance capabilities.

Musical Experiences

We believe in providing a rich tapestry of musical experiences that extend beyond the classroom and co-curricular activities. These experiences are designed to engage the entire school community and offer diverse opportunities for musical growth and appreciation.

Whole School Assembly Singing

We utilize assembly time for whole-school singing practice, focusing on seasonal events such as Christmas and Harvest. These sessions are led by our school choir, allowing them to showcase their skills while guiding their peers. This

practice not only enhances the school's musical cohesion but also prepares students for upcoming performances and celebrations.

Event-Based Musical Development

Our school's musical development is further enriched through various event-based opportunities. We strive to provide a mix of free, grant-funded, and family-supported experiences to ensure that all students have access to high-quality musical events.

Inclusive Approach

We are committed to making musical experiences accessible to all students. Our approach includes:

- Offering free events to ensure universal participation
- Seeking grant funding to support additional musical opportunities
- Providing options for family-funded activities for those who wish to participate

By offering this range of experiences, we aim to cater to diverse interests and abilities, ensuring that every student has the chance to engage with music in meaningful ways.

Community Engagement

Our musical experiences often extend into the community, fostering connections and showcasing our students' talents. This may involve performances at local events and in school that are open to the public. Through these varied musical experiences, we proudly offer a comprehensive and inclusive music program that complements our curriculum and co-curricular activities. Our goal is to provide a strong musical foundation for every student, nurturing their talents and fostering a lifelong appreciation for music.

Future development

To broaden children's musical experiences and deepen their engagement with music, the school will focus on several key developments in the upcoming years.

- We plan to increase live music opportunities, allowing pupils to experience the excitement and inspiration of live performance, whether through visiting musicians and professionals at the Glasshouse music centre for their Sing Up projects, or school-based showcases, which are shared and celebrated with local community homes and groups.
- Recognising potential funding challenges, we will also support staff in building confidence to teach instrumental skills independently, ensuring continuity in music education even if external music hub services become less accessible. Additionally, targeted professional development will help teachers feel more equipped to guide students in composition, improvisation, and music notation, fostering creativity and a deeper understanding of musical structure.

Name of the school music lead - Mr Sebastien Fumoleau

Name of local music hub - Gateshead Music Hub

<https://www.gatesheadandsouthtynesidemusic hub.co.uk/>