

Music development plan summary: North Downs Primary School

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024/25
Date this summary was published	January 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Jessica Witcher
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Ciara Deeks
Name of local music hub	Surrey Arts

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 North Downs, we strive, through the effective teaching and learning of the knowledge, skills and understanding in music, to maintain and stimulate pupil curiosity, interest and enjoyment. We cover the National Curriculum requirements for music through the use of 'Charanga'.

The Charanga Musical School Scheme provides teachers with week-by-week lesson support for each year group in the school. It provides lesson plans, assessment, clear progression, and engaging and exciting whiteboard resources to support every lesson. The Scheme supports all the requirements of the national curriculum.

In line with the curriculum for music, this Scheme provides an integrated, practical, exploratory and child-led approach to musical learning.

Each Unit of Work within the scheme focuses on the strands of musical learning which correspond with the national curriculum for music:

- Listening and Appraising
- Singing
- Playing/ Composition
- Performing

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.

Alongside our music curriculum, we run our ever-popular school choir. This is regularly attended by children in Key Stage 2, who are always enthusiastic, committed and motivated to succeed.

We have, currently, instrumental teachers leading weekly sessions for the keyboard, piano, flute, guitar, drums, ukelele and brass. We encourage pupils to come together to play as an ensemble for special events in and around school, such as our Junior Carol Concert, whilst liaising with Surrey Arts to maximise wider musical opportunities for all of our children.

Through liaising with Surrey Arts, we strive to provide opportunities for pupils to trial playing instruments, through assemblies and demonstration sessions in class. In addition, the orchestra from our feeder secondary schools also take to opportunity to perform for our pupils. Surrey Arts Instrument Hire Store has a wide variety of instruments available for parents to hire, and the school also has a small stock of instruments which the children are able use. Surrey County Council also has an instrument assisted purchasing scheme.

We have a small music room where instrumental lessons take place and pupils are also able to use this space to practise and rehearse.

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.

Pupils are encouraged to take part in performances including our annual Christmas concerts, the Surrey Arts Music Festival at the Dorking Halls, PTA Events and our end of year leaver's performance.

To support their learning, we organise theatre trips for the pupils and performers often visit this school. We ask that parent make a voluntary contribution towards these trips and visits, in line with our charging and remissions policy and procedures. We make efforts to subsidise these activities wherever possible.

In the future

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

We plan to offer additional opportunities for children to perform to an audience. We have a number of pupils who play a musical instrument so would like to work with the music teachers from Surrey Arts to provide the children with the opportunity to play regularly together as an orchestra/musical ensemble.

We have an existing programme of weekly external visitors to the school who lead assemblies and enrichment sessions. We would like to broaden this further to include musical and artistic performers.