

Music development plan summary: Skerne Park Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024/2025
Date this summary was published	Summer term 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	Summer term 2026
Name of the school music lead	Hannah Roberts
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Clair Gooding
Name of local music hub	Durham
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Not applicable

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 Skerne Park Academy we have a timetabled music lesson each week across all year groups. We are transitioning to using the Kapow scheme of music and this ensures full National Curriculum coverage. Pupils learn to appreciate and listen to a diverse range of genres of music that they may not otherwise gain exposure to. This encourages pupils to develop their own opinions and interests. Musical skills are learnt, revisited and built upon each year – ensuring that prior knowledge is embedded and relevant to their new learning. There are opportunities for pupils to use tuned and percussion instruments within the curriculum of their timetabled music lesson. We have a variety of instruments that our pupils and teachers can incorporate into lessons.

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.

In addition to their weekly timetabled lessons pupils can access other music related experiences within school. Pupils take part in weekly singing assemblies, in which they sing a range of seasonal and popular songs. This is a particular favourite of pupils and they take part with enthusiasm. Each year, pupils have the opportunity to rehearse and perform in a Christmas production. EYFS, KS1, LKS2 and UKS2 each perform their own Christmas musical or show. These performances include: singing, dancing, acting and playing musical instruments. Performances are well attended by parents and carers, and pupils enjoy the process of rehearsing and performing songs. Another opportunity offered to pupils in Key Stage 2 is 'Skerne Park's got Talent.' This talent show is a popular event that runs throughout most of the school year. Pupils can audition and perform to pupils, staff and parents/carers in the hopes of progressing through the rounds. Many pupils choose acts involving singing and dancing.

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.

We also offer additional musical experiences throughout the year. Each year we have approximately 30 pupils take part in Durham Music Service's Big Sign and Sing. Pupils who sign up to the event also attend a singing after school club for several weeks prior to the event, where vocal warm ups and songs are learnt.

Pupils also have the opportunity to perform at the Darlington Hippodrome, as part of the local schools' dance showcase.

There are often opportunities to visit the Darlington Hippodrome to watch events and shows, including the Christmas Pantomime.

We also ensure that we promote local events on our school's social media. Such as informing parents and carers of musical events at Darlington's Hullabaloo.

In the future

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

- To build on our current model of music we hope to increase the wider opportunities for pupils to express their passion and talent in music. Offering some instrumental tuition would give pupils more opportunities to develop their talents. Continuing with the school Christmas performance and the school talent show give pupils the chance to showcase their hard work. We will endeavour to create a school choir and opportunities for pupils to perform as part of this group.
- We will continue with our new scheme of work for music and quality assure how this embeds musical knowledge and understanding in KS1 to then be developed into KS2.