

Music development plan summary: Hoyland Common Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026/2027
Date this summary was published	10 th July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Hannah Lloyd
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Rebecca Griffin
Name of local music hub	Barnsley Education Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady Music School Barnsley Youth Choir

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 Curriculum Intent

At Hoyland Common Primary School our approach to music education is to ensure that all pupils receive a rich, progressive and high-quality musical experience. Our curriculum places a strong emphasis on listening and appraising, and we have developed a bespoke listening repertoire that pupils revisit and build upon throughout their time in school. This carefully curated approach enables children to develop a broad understanding of musical styles, genres and traditions, while fostering a lifelong appreciation and enjoyment of music.

Music is taught as a discrete subject to ensure depth, rigour and progression. Every year group receives a minimum of one hour of music each week. In addition, pupils in Year 4 participate in

whole-class ensemble tuition through the Barnsley Music Education Hub, where they learn the ukulele and develop their ensemble performance skills.

Our Music Curriculum is underpinned by the principles of accelerated learning and is supported by our progressive curriculum framework. This document sets out the substantive knowledge, disciplinary knowledge and key concepts that pupils will encounter and revisit throughout their musical journey. Content has been carefully selected and sequenced to enable children to build securely on prior learning, deepen their understanding over time and make meaningful connections across different aspects of music. The curriculum has been designed from the National Curriculum and provides a clear progression of knowledge and skills, ensuring pupils are equipped to flourish as musicians and learners in modern Britain.

The curriculum sets out clear pathways for progression, enabling pupils to develop and apply their musical knowledge with increasing confidence and sophistication. Through this approach, pupils develop musically across the three interrelated pillars of musicianship:

- **Technical Development** – enabling pupils to translate their musical intentions successfully into sound through developing practical skills.
- **Constructive Development** – supporting pupils to understand how musical elements and components work together, both analytically and creatively.
- **Expressive Development** – encouraging pupils to explore the quality, meaning, creativity and emotional impact of music.

To further support progression and curriculum delivery, these three pillars are organised into six key areas of learning:

- Singing
- Listening
- Composing
- Musicianship
- Performing
- Musical History

Our curriculum content has been carefully designed to develop these essential areas, ensuring pupils engage regularly in listening, composing and performing activities. As a result, the music curriculum is rich, varied, ambitious and inclusive, providing all pupils with opportunities to develop as confident and knowledgeable musicians.

Following our review, we have ensured that the curriculum remains ambitious for all learners, including pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Curriculum leaders and

teachers maintain high expectations for every child, and learning is adapted without reducing ambition or diluting content. Individual needs are carefully considered, and appropriate adaptations are planned to enable all pupils to access and succeed within the curriculum.

The curriculum has been sequenced to ensure that all pupils, including those with SEND, can build on prior knowledge and develop secure understanding over time. Where pupils have complex needs, personalised approaches may be implemented to support learning while maintaining high aspirations and meaningful musical engagement.

Adaptations may include reducing unnecessary cognitive load, directing attention towards key learning, providing pre-teaching of vocabulary and concepts, and offering additional opportunities to revisit learning. These approaches support pupils in developing confidence, understanding and independence as musicians.

Alongside curriculum provision, pupils are given opportunities to participate in a range of musical enrichment activities, qualifications and awards. Through our continued partnership with the Barnsley Music Education Hub, pupils can access additional instrumental and vocal tuition, extending their musical experiences and supporting those who wish to pursue music further.

In summary, following a comprehensive review of current guidance and curriculum expectations, Hoyland Common Primary School has developed a robust, inclusive and progressive music curriculum. Through a strong focus on listening, performing, composing and musical understanding, we aim to nurture confident, creative and knowledgeable musicians who engage with music thoughtfully and enthusiastically throughout their lives.

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.

At Hoyland Common Primary School, we are committed to providing a rich and diverse musical education that extends beyond the classroom. Our co-curricular music programme offers pupils a wide range of opportunities to sing, perform and develop their musical talents, nurturing a lifelong love of music while supporting progression in knowledge, skills and confidence.

After-School Choir

Our after-school choir is open to pupils across Key Stage 2 and plays a vibrant role in school life. Choir members develop their vocal technique, learn to sing in harmony and experience the enjoyment of performing as part of an ensemble.

Pupils regularly perform at celebrations, community events and fundraising activities throughout the year. These opportunities have included singing at school fairs, participating in community carol services and performing for residents in local elderly care homes. Such experiences enable pupils to develop confidence, communication skills and a sense of community responsibility through music.

The choir has also participated in prestigious events such as Young Voices and Barnsley Sing!, providing children with the unique opportunity to perform in large-scale venues alongside thousands of other young musicians. These experiences help pupils develop resilience, teamwork and a deeper appreciation of the power of collective musical performance.

Instrumental Learning Opportunities

We believe that instrumental learning is an important aspect of a broad and balanced music education. Through our partnership with the Barnsley Music Education Hub, all pupils in Year 4 take part in whole-class ensemble tuition, learning to play the ukulele. These lessons develop technical proficiency, musical understanding and ensemble performance skills while ensuring that every child has the opportunity to learn an instrument.

Alongside whole-class tuition, pupils are encouraged to explore additional instrumental opportunities both within and beyond school, supporting progression for those who wish to develop their musical talents further.

Rocksteady Music Sessions

Our partnership with Rocksteady Music School brings an exciting contemporary element to our music provision. Through weekly sessions, pupils have the opportunity to learn vocals, drums, keyboard, electric guitar and bass guitar whilst performing as part of a band.

These highly engaging sessions allow children to experience live music-making in a modern context, exploring a range of musical genres and developing creativity, collaboration and performance skills.

A particular highlight of the programme is the termly Rocksteady concerts, where participating pupils perform in front of parents and carers as well as the whole school community. These performances provide valuable opportunities for children to showcase their learning, celebrate their achievements and experience the excitement of a live audience.

Barnsley Youth Choir Partnership

Over the past two years, we have developed a strong and highly valued partnership with Barnsley Youth Choir (BYC). Through this relationship, our pupils benefit from Barnsley Youth Choir's educational offer, which includes bespoke workshops and singing experiences for both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils throughout the academic year.

We are also proud to host two of Barnsley Youth Choir's choirs on our school site, providing local children with greater access to high-quality choral opportunities and opening pathways for participation in one of Barnsley's most respected musical organisations.

This partnership has significantly enriched musical opportunities for our pupils. As a result of our close working relationship, our school choir has been invited to participate in spectacular performances featuring world-renowned choirs from across the globe. These exceptional experiences provide children with unforgettable opportunities to perform at the highest level, broaden their musical horizons and develop a genuine understanding of excellence in choral singing.

Many of our pupils now attend Barnsley Youth Choir outside of school, enabling them to further develop their vocal skills and continue their musical journey beyond the school day.

Enhancing Musical Development

Our co-curricular music activities are carefully designed to complement and extend the learning that takes place within the classroom. Through regular rehearsals, performances, workshops and instrumental opportunities, pupils deepen their musical knowledge, strengthen their practical skills and develop confidence as performers.

The progression from curriculum music lessons to choir participation, instrumental tuition and external performance opportunities ensures that pupils receive a comprehensive and enriching musical education. These experiences help children develop not only as musicians, but also as confident, creative and collaborative individuals.

Conclusion

Hoyland Common Primary School's co-curricular music programme provides a wealth of meaningful opportunities for pupils to engage with music beyond the curriculum. Through singing, instrumental learning, performance experiences and our strong partnerships with organisations such as Rocksteady Music School, Barnsley Music Education Hub and Barnsley Youth Choir, we aim to nurture every child's musical potential and foster a lifelong appreciation of music.

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.

At Hoyland Common Primary School, we are committed to developing confident, well-rounded learners. As part of our holistic approach to education, we provide a rich and varied range of experiences that support the development of the whole child through what we proudly call 'The HCPS Offer'. A key element of this provision sits within our Arts and Culture strand, where music plays a significant role in enriching pupils' experiences, broadening horizons and fostering a lifelong appreciation of the performing arts.

We believe that exposing children to high-quality musical and theatrical experiences is essential in developing cultural capital, confidence and emotional intelligence. Through carefully planned

and progressive opportunities, pupils engage with a range of performances, audiences and venues, helping them to develop a sense of belonging and an understanding of the wider world.

Experiencing live performance forms an important part of our music enrichment programme. Throughout their time at Hoyland Common, pupils have opportunities to attend concerts, theatre productions and musical events both within school and beyond. We regularly welcome professional musicians and performers into school, enabling children to experience live music in an accessible and familiar environment. Whole-school concert performances held in our school hall provide opportunities for pupils to experience the excitement and atmosphere of live music firsthand.

In addition, all pupils attend a pantomime performance, allowing them to engage with a much-loved theatrical tradition whilst developing their understanding of performance, storytelling and stagecraft. Our commitment to providing memorable cultural experiences extends beyond the school setting, with Reception and Year 5 pupils visiting the Lyceum Theatre to experience professional theatre productions. These visits help pupils to deepen their understanding of the performing arts while inspiring creativity and imagination.

Performance opportunities are embedded throughout school life and provide pupils with meaningful occasions to share and celebrate their musical achievements. Our school choir regularly participates in large-scale events, including Young Voices, where pupils perform alongside thousands of children from across the country in world-class venues. These experiences create lasting memories while helping pupils develop confidence, resilience and teamwork.

Music performance is celebrated throughout the year through a variety of showcases and concerts. Pupils involved in instrumental and vocal tuition regularly perform to audiences of peers, parents and carers. Our Rocksteady bands present termly concerts to both the school community and families, while other musical groups and ensembles are given opportunities to demonstrate their progress and achievements through performance.

Seasonal celebrations provide further opportunities for pupils to develop their performance skills. During the Autumn Term, our Early Years pupils delight audiences with their Nativity production, while Key Stage 1 pupils participate in our much-loved Carols by Candlelight celebration. Key Stage 2 pupils contribute to the festive spirit through performances at the school Christmas Market, and our youngest children visit local care homes to share songs and seasonal cheer with members of the community. These opportunities help strengthen connections between the school and the wider community whilst demonstrating the powerful role music can play in bringing people together.

For pupils with a passion for drama and performance, our Drama Club provides an additional platform to develop creativity, confidence and communication skills. Participants work collaboratively to rehearse and perform productions at a local theatre, giving them valuable experience of performing on a professional stage and in front of live audiences.

A highlight of the primary journey is the Year 6 end-of-year production. This prestigious event enables pupils to showcase their talents through acting, singing and musical performance as they celebrate the culmination of their primary education. Supported by specialist teachers from a local secondary school, pupils experience high-quality rehearsal and performance processes, providing an authentic insight into the world of theatre and the performing arts.

Through our extensive programme of musical and performance opportunities, Hoyland Common Primary School ensures that every child has the chance to participate in, experience and appreciate the arts. These experiences enrich our curriculum, strengthen pupils' confidence and cultural understanding, and help create lifelong memories that support their personal development long after they leave our school.

In the future

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

At Hoyland Common Primary School, we are dedicated to continuously enhancing our music education provision to ensure that it meets the highest standards and provides enriching experiences for all our students. In the coming years, we plan to implement several key improvements in curriculum music, co-curricular music, and musical experiences to further develop our students' musical abilities and appreciation.

Embedding Music Through Weekly Singing Assemblies

Further strengthen the delivery of music across the school by embedding high-quality musical learning within weekly whole-school and key stage singing assemblies. The Music Leader will continue to work in partnership with professionals from Barnsley Youth Choir to utilise specialist CPD, resources and expertise to enhance the singing assembly curriculum. This will support the development of pupils' vocal skills, musical understanding and confidence in performance, while ensuring a consistent and progressive approach to singing across the school.

Further Development of the HCPS Offer

Through the ongoing refinement of the HCPS Offer, continue to expand opportunities for pupils to engage in meaningful musical enrichment experiences throughout their primary journey. While music enrichment is currently mapped to specific year groups, the next stage of development will ensure that all pupils access high-quality workshops, performances and real-world musical experiences through the Arts and Culture strand. This will further strengthen pupils' cultural capital, broaden their musical experiences and increase participation in the arts across the school.

Embedding and Refining Half-Termly Music Units

Continue to embed the newly developed half-termly units of work across all year groups. Each unit is supported by a bespoke front cover that clearly identifies the key learning objectives, substantive knowledge and disciplinary knowledge to be taught. The focus for the coming academic year will be to ensure these units are implemented consistently and effectively across all classes, supporting the regular and systematic teaching of music. This will provide greater clarity for teachers, strengthen progression in learning and enable more effective monitoring of pupil outcomes and curriculum coverage.

Further information (optional)

To supplement our offer at school, The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Your local [music hub](#) should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.