



## Overview

| Detail                                                                             | Information                      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Academic year that this summary covers                                             | 2026-27                          |
| Date this summary was published                                                    | September '26                    |
| Date this summary will be reviewed                                                 | September '27                    |
| Name of the school music lead                                                      | Stephi Dennis                    |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | Helen Adams                      |
| Name of local music hub                                                            | Sheffield Music Hub              |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)            | Lowe Music Academy<br>Rocksteady |

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 section explains 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

Music is an important part of our curriculum from the Early Years onwards. Our Music Curriculum is designed to give pupils a broad and progressive experience of music, developing their skills in singing, performing, listening and appraising, composing, improvising and playing instruments.

In EYFS, children develop the foundations of their musical learning through regular singing, rhymes, movement and opportunities to explore instruments. Nursery rhymes and songs are used throughout the school day, including during routines and transitions, helping children to develop their sense of pulse, pitch, rhythm and confidence in singing together. Children have access to a range of instruments to explore different sounds and ways of playing. They also take part in short, regular music sessions using carefully selected Sparkyard resources, listening and responding to music from different genres, moving to music and learning songs and rhymes with actions. Children are encouraged to talk about and respond to the music they hear, building the vocabulary and listening skills that underpin their musical learning in Key Stage 1.

Music lessons are timetabled for at least 40 minutes every week in every class from Year 1 to Year 6.

In Years 1–3, pupils follow a curriculum built from carefully selected and adapted units from the Sparkyard Music Curriculum. These units have been chosen to give pupils a breadth of musical experience, including exploring the history and development of music, different genres and styles, the interrelated dimensions of music, and opportunities to compose and improvise. The curriculum is being progressively developed so that pupils build on their musical knowledge and skills as they move through the school.

In Years 4–6, pupils use Charanga to develop these aspects of their musical learning. They explore a range of musical styles and genres, develop their understanding of the interrelated dimensions of music, and have regular opportunities to compose and improvise. The curriculum builds on the foundations established in Years 1–3.

Alongside this, pupils develop practical instrumental skills through a planned progression of classroom instruments. Year 1 pupils learn to play the glockenspiel across two units, while Year 2 pupils develop their skills on the recorder across two units. In Year 3, pupils have the opportunity to learn the cornet in lessons led by a Music Specialist from the Sheffield Music Hub. They spend three units developing the skills and discipline involved in playing and practising an instrument, working towards performing for an audience. In Year 4, pupils revisit and develop their previous learning through a recorder unit and a glockenspiel unit.

We are also developing our instrumental curriculum further, with the intention that Years 5 and 6 will progress to learning keyboard as part of their classroom music provision. This is a planned development and will be introduced as the curriculum progresses.

Singing and performing are an integral part of the music curriculum. Dedicated performance units provide opportunities for pupils to develop their singing, learn to sing in time and with accurate pitch, and perform confidently and appropriately for an audience. Years 1 and 2 have a dedicated singing and performing focus in the Spring term, Years 4 and 5 prepare for performances at Christmas, and Year 6 work towards an end-of-Summer-term performance. Years 3–6 also have opportunities to perform as part of their instrumental learning and wider school music provision.

The Music Curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum and the National Curriculum for Music, ensuring that pupils develop both the practical and theoretical knowledge needed to become confident, creative and musically literate.

## Part B: Co-curricular music

This section covers opportunities for pupils to sing and play music outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles, and bands, and how they can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

We provide a range of opportunities for pupils to sing and play music beyond their timetabled music lessons. Our aim is to encourage children to enjoy making music, discover instruments they are interested in, and have opportunities to develop their skills further as they progress through the school.

The Oughtibridge Choir is a well-established and popular part of school life, with around 50 pupils joining each year. The choir rehearses for one hour after school each Monday during the Autumn and Spring Terms. They perform a Christmas concert at Oughtibridge Church and take part in Young Voices in January/February. The choir also has opportunities to perform at local community events.

Pupils can access a wide range of individual and small-group instrumental lessons alongside the school curriculum. Current provision includes piano, drums, woodwind (including clarinet, flute, saxophone and recorder), violin, acoustic and electric guitar, bass guitar and ukulele, with opportunities to learn brass instruments also being developed. We aim to make instrumental learning accessible to pupils who are keen to develop their skills beyond the classroom, with subsidised places available for disadvantaged pupils. This provision is accessed by a significant proportion of pupils across the school.

We also offer Rocksteady, a band-based music programme delivered by professional musicians. This provides a different route into instrumental music-making, with children learning to play together as a band and developing confidence, teamwork and performance skills. We are developing this provision with the aim of making it particularly accessible to pupils in Years 1 and 2, providing an opportunity to try different instruments, enjoy making music with others and discover which instruments they may wish to pursue further through individual or small-group tuition.

Following the whole-class Year 3 cornet and previous violin provision, pupils who develop a particular interest in an instrument are encouraged to continue their musical learning. A number of pupils who learnt violin through whole-class tuition in Year 3 have continued into Years 4, 5 and 6, initially through the Pathways programme and subsequently through individual lessons.

We celebrate and encourage pupils' musical development through performance opportunities. In Summer 2026, we held our first 'Spotlight on Oughtibridge Musicians' event, giving pupils learning a range of instruments the opportunity to perform to their parents and celebrate their musical achievements. Forty acts signed up to perform, showcasing the breadth of instrumental learning taking place across the school. This event is planned again for the end of this academic year.

Our co-curricular music provision is continuing to develop, with the aim of creating clear and accessible pathways for pupils to move from enjoying and exploring music, to developing a

particular instrumental interest, and then to sustained individual or ensemble musical development and performance.

## Part C: Musical experiences

This section covers other musical events and opportunities, such as singing in assemblies, concerts and shows, and trips to professional performances.

We provide a range of musical experiences beyond the classroom, giving pupils opportunities to sing and perform, listen to live music, experience professional performances and celebrate their own musical achievements.

- All pupils participate in weekly singing assemblies, lasting around 20 minutes. These sessions revisit key musical concepts such as pitch and pulse and include a wide variety of songs, including call-and-response chants, a cappella traditional songs from different cultures and songs from the *Out of the Ark* scheme.
- Each year group has opportunities to learn songs and perform for an audience:
  - EYFS: Christmas Nativity
  - Years 1 and 2: Spring Musical
  - Year 3: Cornet Showcase Performance
  - Year 4: Christmas Musical
  - Year 5: Christmas local carols concert
  - Year 6: Summer musical production and Leavers' Assembly
- Pupils across the school attend performances of these productions as an audience, developing their appreciation and understanding of live performance.
- Years 1 and 2 perform songs as part of a Christingle service at the local parish church.
- Years 5 and 6 attend the Rotherham Civic Pantomime each year, experiencing live music, song and dance as part of a professional production.
- Parents of Rocksteady pupils are invited to concerts throughout the year, giving pupils regular opportunities to perform as part of a band.
- The Oughtibridge Choir takes part in the Young Voices concert annually, both performing and experiencing the wider concert alongside thousands of other young singers. They also perform Christmas carols for parents at the local parish church.
- Our Foundation and Key Stage 1 children enjoy interactive live music concerts with storytelling from Concerteenies Sheffield, enriching their learning through music, rhythm and imagination.
- Our Year 3 children experience the Hallé for Youth Orchestra at Sheffield City Hall, taking part in an interactive, multi-sensory concert designed to develop their appreciation of orchestral music and live performance.
- We celebrate the musical achievements of pupils learning instruments through our 'Spotlight on Oughtibridge Musicians' event. First held in Summer 2026, the event gave children the opportunity to perform to their parents on their chosen instrument. Forty acts took part, showcasing the breadth of musical learning taking place across the school. The event is planned to take place again at the end of each academic year.

Through these experiences, pupils have opportunities not only to perform, but also to listen, respond, participate as an audience and experience a wide range of live music and musical styles.

## In the future

This section outlines our plans for the coming years.

Our Music Development Plan will continue to build on the strong foundations now in place, with a focus on developing a coherent and progressive musical journey from EYFS through to Year 6.

- We will continue to develop and refine the Music Curriculum, building on the work already undertaken in Years 1–3. Our longer-term aim is to develop the Sparkyard curriculum progressively through the school, so that the carefully selected and adapted approach currently used in Years 1–3 eventually extends into Years 4–6.
- We will continue to broaden and strengthen our instrumental curriculum, including introducing keyboards in Years 5 and 6 as the next stage of classroom instrumental learning. This will build on the range of instrumental experiences pupils receive earlier in the school.
- We will work to reduce barriers to wider musical participation, making opportunities to learn an instrument and take part in musical activities accessible to as wide a range of pupils as possible. We will continue to develop clear pathways from classroom music into individual, small-group and other musical opportunities, including considering how cost and other barriers can be reduced.
- We will explore further opportunities for ensemble playing, giving pupils who learn different instruments the chance to develop their skills by making music together and performing as part of a group.