

Music development plan summary: Harpfield Primary Academy

Overview

| Detail | Information |
|--|---------------------------|
| Academic year that this summary covers | 2025-2026 |
| Date this summary was published | October 2025 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | October 2026 |
| Name of the school music lead | Philip Nankivell |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | |
| Name of local music hub | Stoke on Trent City Music |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | |

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.

We teach a balanced curriculum that is planned and sequenced appropriately in order to build on and develop the knowledge and skills required to secure children's ability and understanding of music. Children have opportunities to recall and make connections with their musical knowledge and skills throughout the curriculum. Musicianship is woven throughout the curriculum. [Curriculum Maps - Harpfield \(harpfieldprimaryacademy.org.uk\)](https://harpfieldprimaryacademy.org.uk)

All pupils from nursery to Year 6 receive a half an hour music lesson every week, delivered by a music specialist. In addition to this, all pupils receive half an hour singing / song practice every week.

Each music unit involves listening and appraising, singing & performing and composition.

Children have access to a wide range of quality instruments across different cultures and traditions.

The use of technology e.g. Chromebooks are currently used in Y5/6 for half a term each year to support the music curriculum.

Children with musical interests outside school are encouraged in class to perform and showcase their talents.

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.

We use co-curricular opportunities to develop, broaden and showcase our pupils' talents.

We have a School Choir lunchtime opportunity where there is space for rehearsals and individual practice.

In addition to the music curriculum lessons, over the course of the year, all pupils from each class take part in enrichment sessions in half termly blocks for half an hour every week: KS1 drums and percussion to develop beat and rhythm; Y3 build on these skills to create music on Garage Band; Y4 ukulele strumming rhythmically and introducing chord charts and tabs; Y5 guitars strum chords and pick with TABS; Y6 keyboards using chords to accompany simple melodies and 12 bar blues.

Violin and drumming small group tutoring sessions are offered to a group of Pupil Premium pupils or gifted and talented children giving them the opportunity for early access into the instruments. All these children take the opportunity to celebrate their new skills in celebration assemblies each term.

Piano lessons are offered externally for our LAC pupils and are currently accessed by one child.

The Royal Shakespeare Associate Schools Programme: music plays a big part in our Shakespeare work at Harpfield, developing our skills in performance, putting text to music, creating soundscapes and adding sound effects to text all across the school.

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.

- Termly school performance for instrumentalists; showing and spotlighting class achievements.
- Nativities and Carol Concerts are performed to parents.
- The choir perform some of their production songs to local care home residents.
- Music skills each half term are, at present, videoed and saved or are performed to the class teacher. Where allowed, they are also shared on social media and Class Dojo.
- Those that receive small group tutoring go to the theatre to watch a live orchestra play (e.g. Halle at The Victoria Hall).
- Enrichment experiences e.g. harpist workshop for all pupils, watching live performance shows at the local theatre.
- Previously Key Strings have performed in school, an iPad orchestra project was created and past pupils who continued to learn to play an instrument have come and performed for us.
- Y4 children take part in the City Music annual recorder festival at the Victoria Hall.
- Every year the music and drama club 'Take The Stage' perform high quality musical plays for parents.
- Young Voices - children in the Take the Stage club go to Young Voices every year and join the mass choir in Birmingham arena.

In the future

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

- Provide more opportunities for live experiences.
- Develop IT skills and use computers to compose their own music digitally.
- Equip staff to help support, deliver or enrich music in school in their own classroom.

Further information (optional)

www.stokecms.org.uk City Music School (fully funded lessons for designated children)

[Character & Arts Foundation - City Learning Trust](#) (Opportunities to watch out for)

www.livemusicnow.org.uk Live musicians to visit school (Harpist)