

# Music development plan summary: Rivers Primary Academy

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2023/24
Date this summary was published	August 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	August 2025
Name of the school music lead	Amelia France
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Sophie Cotterill
Name of local music hub	Walsall Music Education Hub & Service

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 Rivers Primary Academy, we teach music in each year group for 1 hour a week. Our music curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021) and the National Curriculum. Music lessons are fully inclusive for all learners and learning is adapted to ensure all pupil, including pupils with SEND, can access the curriculum. All children have the opportunity to learn to sing, play instruments, compose and perform throughout the year.

In Early Years, music is an integral part of early development and musical development matters. Music is planned for across the four musical areas: Hearing & Listening, Vocalising & Singing, Moving & Dancing and Exploring & Playing. Within the environment, music is embedded with a stage in our outdoor area. Opportunities to engage with sound are planned for and singing is part of daily practice.

In KS1 and KS2, children are taught by their class teachers (with the exception of Year 4). In Year 3 children learn to play the recorder. In Year 4 children receive instrumental lessons, planned and delivered by an external music specialist through whole-class ensemble teaching from Walsall Music Education Hub & Service. Pupils learn to read and write staff notation.

## 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.

**Performance opportunities come in the form of, but is not limited to:**

Nativity Performance (EYFS & KS1)

Easter Bonnet Parade (EYFS) & Easter Service (Year 3)

Carol Concert (KS2)

KS2 End of Year Performance (All KS2)

Beyond the classroom children gain enjoyment, self-confidence and a sense of achievement through musical activities they become more aware of, understand and respond appropriately to the rich variety of sounds and music in their environment. The

children acquire musical skills and understanding of musical concepts through active listening, performing and

An extra-curricular club is available for all children in Year 4, 5 and 6 to support the continuity of the instrumental lessons, fully subsidised by the school. Children have accessed a violin club this year, loaning instruments from Walsall Music Education Hub & Service. Other extra-curricular clubs include a choir, which is open to all year groups, and a recorder club.

At Rivers Primary Academy, we have a purpose-built music studio which is fully equipped with numerous pitched and unpitched instruments. Music lessons and extra-curricular clubs take place there. Children use 1:1 iPads to access digital music programmes such as GarageBand.

## **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.

Rivers Primary Academy holds the ArtsMark Gold Award. Children have a number of opportunities to perform both within school, at Windsor Academy Trust events and in other local and national events. Children have performed in numerous locations including at Walsall Forest Arts Centre and at Birmingham's ICC. As part of the 11 before 11 initiative, children in Year 5 visit London to see a West End show. This year, the children saw Mrs Doubtfire.

As part of our music curriculum, every year group has the opportunity to perform regularly, whether this is to their partner class or in an assembly to multiple classes. Musical performances for the children are free, where they are a member of the audience. Most recently, a live musician played the guitar and sang to the whole school in an assembly. They completed a series of workshops with both Year 3 classes.

Each week, we have a whole school singing assembly which covers a large range of genres as well as different time periods. Some of the songs have been popular music songs from different decades as well as songs from musicals and films. Children have the opportunity to rehearse this song as a collective in their weekly phase assembly too.

## In the future

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

As part of our musical experiences, we will continue to develop the provision for children to attend more live performances as audience members, including those outside of school. We will continue to strengthen our partnership with Walsall Music Education Hub & Service by participating in projects that they offer so the children are immersed in musical performance opportunities.

Our music instrumental lessons delivered as part of the first access scheme will include woodwind instrumental lessons, following on from the delivery of recorder lessons in Year 3. Extra-curricular clubs will also be enriched with opportunities for a range of musical clubs for different year groups such as a digital music club.