Music development plan summary: Sussex Road Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Fern Maddison
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Carly Birkett
Name of local music hub	Kent 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.

At Sussex Road Primary, music forms part of our termly enquiries, further details of which can be found on our website: Sussex road Primary School - Curriculum Overviews (sussex-road.kent.sch.uk).

When planning our music curriculum, we have used the Model Music Curriculum as a guide and use Sing Up resources to provide support with planning and delivery as it is closely aligned with the progression in skills recommended by the Model Music Curriculum.

Across the school year, children in Key Stages One and Two receive the equivalent of 45 minutes per week of music curriculum time. These sessions provide children with opportunities to sing, listen to a range of music from different times and cultures, compose, perform and develop their musicianship. Our Year R children have opportunities to sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs daily. They have opportunity to explore musical instruments as part of their daily provision.

Our Year 5 children have the opportunity to learn the ukulele through whole-class ensemble teaching, with support from Kent Music, who have supported us in developing our music curriculum and providing continuous professional development for our staff.

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.

Our specialist peripatetic music teacher offers one-to-one private instrumental lessons for the piano and group drumming sessions with djembes; there is a cost to families for these but the school offers subsidies for children in receipt of pupil premium funding.

Reception and Year 1 children are invited to join the musical bumps club where the children get a chance to sing songs and play untuned percussion instruments.

Key Stage Two children are invited to join our Sussex Road choir and have the opportunity to perform at events such as the Christmas Service and Summer Fair. They also work towards a musical production. These opportunities are at no cost to families.

Children in Year 4, 5 and 6 are invited to take part in the Young Voices Choir and take part in a performance at the O2. Parents are encouraged to attend and take part. There is a cost to the families.

Kent Music provides a range of opportunities for children – from beginners to more advanced – which parents are informed of via our newsletter. There are some costs to families.

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.

Children from Years One to Six take part in weekly singing assemblies, engaging in a repertoire based on the Model Music Curriculum, developing their understanding of music from different time periods and cultures.

The Key Stage Two choir rehearse and perform a musical each year.

Reception and KS1 perform in a Christmas show.

Key Stage Two attend and perform in a carol concert.

Year 5 take part in a ukulele performance to their families for their enquiry showcase.

In the future

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

We will develop meaningful partnerships with local Tonbridge schools through the New Kent Music Networking events, enabling us to stay informed about regional developments and opportunities. This will support the continued growth and enhancement of our whole-school music curriculum and enrichment offer.

Following the release of the new curriculum in 2027, we will undertake a comparison of the statutory requirements and the current Sussex Road curriculum, identifying and implementing any changes needed to maintain compliance and best practice.