

Music development plan summary: Barnett Wood Infants School



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Rebecca Charlton
Name of local music hub	Surrey Arts
Name of other music education organisation(s) (curriculum scheme)	Sparkyard

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 Barnett Wood we feel that music is a unique way of communicating that inspires and motivates children. It is a vehicle for personal expression, and it plays an important part in the personal development of people. Music reflects the culture and society we live in, and so the teaching and learning of music enables our children to better understand the world they live in. It also plays an important part in helping children to feel part of a community. We aim to provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform, listen to and enjoy music across a range of historical periods, to develop skills, to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

Our objectives in the teaching of music are:

- To explore how sounds are made, and can be organised into musical structures;
- To show and discover how music is produced by a variety of instruments and to give children many opportunities to use their voices and musical instruments;
- To show children how music is created, composed and written down;

- To examine the relevance of when, where and why a given piece of music was written;
- To develop the interrelated skills of composition, performance and appreciation.

In Music, the school provides appropriate and meaningful learning experiences. We provide the foundations for a love of music and offer our children the experience and enjoy a variety of music. We use online resources which are relevant to our children and make sure they learn through a variety of cross-curricular methods. Pupils will be encouraged to recognise a range of genres and be able to use and understand a variety of musical vocabulary. They will build on skills learnt in previous years and encouraged to reach their full potential through a varied music curriculum.

All pupils receive weekly music lesson and attend a weekly singing assembly, along with singing as a key part of every assembly and classroom routine. The following time is allocated for curriculum music across all terms and year groups:

Early Years

Reception – 20mins

KS1

Year 1 – 50mins

Year 2 – 50mins

Opportunities are provided across all music lessons for children to learn to sing and develop all round 'music confidence' throughout their time at Barnett Wood. This is supported through weekly singing assemblies, for Year 1 and 2 and Reception from January 2025. These assemblies incorporate skills learnt in class to further develop their 'music confidence'. Pupils across the school are also provided with opportunities to learn to play musical instruments whole-class.

As a school we are passionate about music and enjoy listening to and singing a variety of songs across the school day. For the past three years we have been using the Sparkyard curriculum to teach our music lessons and have adapted the scheme to fit our children. Sparkyard also incorporates Makaton as part of the signing tuition, these sign gestures are used during some of our assemblies and class teaching.

Early Years

Music is an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. As the Reception classes are part of the Foundation Stage of the National Curriculum, we relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Years Curriculum. The class teachers use Sparkyard lesson plans weekly to teach new music vocabulary and provide the children with a rich and varied experience of music. Music contributes to a child's personal and social development. Counting songs, songs with themes, literacy and Little Wandle Phonics songs along with songs from different cultures are regular features in our Reception classes. Exploring music as an activity is available in both inside and outside learning areas. At Barnett Wood the Reception

children have opportunities to perform – Class assemblies and a Harvest and Christmas performance, for each of these they learn songs and actions (including sign language) and develop their confidence to perform in front of an audience. We explore musical instruments and talk about hearing different sounds. The children play Phonics Phase 1 sound games to help us identify different noises and have instruments available as part of our free flow learning. The Reception children follow the EYFS – Birth to 5 Matters, music observations would link to EAD (Expressive Arts and Design).

Part B: Extra-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.

All pupils receive whole-class instrument teaching as part of our music curriculum, pupils in Year 2 also have extra instrument tuition through a lunchtime recorder club. These sessions focus on accuracy and instilling a love of music. These early experiences prepare our children for a more formal instrument lesson at their next step in education.

All pupils are given the opportunity to attend further lunchtime music clubs, choir and drumming, which are delivered by our enthusiastic staff. Choir club is run all year, across all year groups, with the aim to perform to members of the community. Each week children learn a variety of current and traditional songs, whilst practising specific singing skills. The children learn to sing as part of a group and have the opportunity to learn to sing as part of a round. Drumming club is carried out across a term for a small group of children at a time, so that each child has the chance to experience playing a Djembe drum independently, we listen to a variety of music across different cultures and learn simple rhythms and rhymes.

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.

On a weekly basis, all pupils attend our whole-school singing assemblies. These provide the children with opportunities to fine tune their singing skills taught in their weekly music lessons and enjoy familiar songs from our Sparkyard scheme.

Our Key Stage 1 children perform to the school community twice a year at our Harvest and Christmas concerts, these are held at our local St George's Church. At these performances children have the opportunity to perform as part of their class and our Year 2 pupils play percussion instruments as part of these performances.

As a school we also recognise and celebrate the children's music achievements outside of school, including learning new instruments and celebrating their success with certificates.

Last academic year we also took part in a whole school 'steel pan' music performance, with a visit from professional players. The children were able to listen to traditional steel pans and our Year 2 pupils had the opportunity to learn about how the pans were played and performed a piece as part of a small group with the train musician.

In the future

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

Curriculum Music

As part of our ordinarily available provision we plan to use more Makaton and signing with singing hands opportunities in our music teaching through the Sparkyard. We will continue to use singing throughout our curriculum and provide children experiences to a range of musical styles.

Musical experiences

We intend to continue providing our children with a range of musical experiences, through inviting professionals to our school assemblies, where children will have the opportunity to play the instruments through workshops.

We also work closely with our parents and encourage them to share their musical talents with our pupils. These opportunities provide our children with a variety of 'real life' music experiences.

Further information (optional)

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.

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