

Music development plan summary:
Murdishaw West Community Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	20.9.2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	20.9.2026
Name of the school music lead	Julie Phillips
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Sound! Music Hub
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

At Murdishaw West Community Primary School, as part of a planned music curriculum pupils have opportunities to play instruments, compose, perform and appraise. Pupils are taught how to use their voices as an instrument and use body percussion.

Pupils are introduced to a wide range of musical genres and music theory is woven throughout lessons to develop pupil's knowledge of the interrelated dimensions of music (pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and musical notations). At Murdishaw West, our music curriculum has been developed in line with the model music curriculum (March 2021) published by the DfE.

Pupils with special educational needs (SEND) have full access to the music curriculum in all year groups and opportunities to engage with appropriate adaptations to support their individual special needs. We ensure that all pupils have access to high quality teaching as the school recognises that quality first teaching is the most effective lever in raising standard for both SEND pupils.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS): Music is taught through the daily practice of learning and performing nursery rhymes, songs and poems which begins during week one of autumn term in nursery. Throughout EYFS, there are opportunities to explore musical instruments in continuous provision. They are introduced to the bells, percussion instruments and the glockenspiel which lays the foundations for their musical education. Pupils are taught how to hold instruments and how to hit to make the best sound. They also use body percussion and percussion instruments to make a variety of

sounds. They are introduced to the children's glockenspiels and are taught how to bounce their mallet to hit different notes. They receive foundational knowledge in these areas that is further developed in KS1.

Key Stage 1: Pupils are taught one-hour weekly music lessons with their class teacher or subject lead covering three units of work per year. Musical instruments taught during these units are untuned percussion and glockenspiel.

Lower Key Stage 2: As the pupils enter lower key stage 2, they begin to learn how to read music, these lessons are taught by the subject lead for one hour a week throughout the year.

Upper Key Stage 2: Pupils will continue to learn and refine how to read music, playing untuned percussion, Boom whackers and glockenspiels. These are taught by the music subject lead for one hour a week throughout the year.

Every year group from year R-6 have the opportunity to sing and to play an instrument as a whole class. The children in EYFS have the opportunity to use instruments and create different sounds with them as part of the planned curriculum.

The school makes use of CPD opportunities provided by our local music hub (Sound! Music Hub) and the Music Mark award. To enhance our singing offer, our Music subject leader is a British Barbershop music gold medallist, champion, who brings her musical and vocal experience to the children on a weekly basis.

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.

There are a range of extra-curricular activities available to pupils at Murdishaw West Community Primary School across each year. These are offered to all pupils and where appropriate vulnerable pupils and those with SEND are targeted to engage and supported to participate. All opportunities we offer are free to all.

Opportunities offered:

- KS2 – Choir (Murdichords), with performance opportunities in school and the wider community such as Halton Haven Hospice.
- KS1 – Singing which includes singing and performance opportunities in school and at an Infant Music Festival

Part C: Musical experiences

At Murdishaw West Community Primary School, we offer pupils opportunities to engage with and perform outside of the classroom and our school building.

- Across the year, pupils in each key stage have the opportunity to sing in weekly assemblies with their peers, they sing the songs identified in our curriculum plans.
- At the end of the autumn term, nursery and reception complete their nativity performances which showcase the singing they have learnt over the term.
- Key stage 1 pupils take part in a musical showcase to share with the parents the learning that has taken place over the summer term.
- At the end of the summer term, children complete an end of year assembly including the songs they have learnt over the year.
- Pupils attend Children of Halton Sing Infant Music Festival
- Murdichords sing in the Halton Performing Arts Network at The Brindley
- Key stage 2 pupils take part in a musical performance at Christmas
- Pupils have performed within the community. For example, Halton Haven, The Brindley
- Murdishaw West Has Talent is an annual event accessible to all pupils and performed at the end of the Autumn term.
- Lunchtime music – all children have opportunities to listen to a range of music during lunchtime whilst eating lunch, this increases the genres of music the children are exposed to.
- During the school day, such as entering the classroom, entering assembly and at home time the children listen to the songs that they appraise through the listening element of the curriculum throughout the year to further expose them to a range of genres.

In the future

Plans are in place to continue to extend opportunities for pupils to take part in musical activity and extend their learning and skills. These include:

- Establishing links with local high schools to share musical experiences and performance.
- Extend children's experiences of musicians and theatre groups.
- Secure additional opportunities for our pupils to perform in the local community and watch others perform.

Further information (optional)

Sound! Music Hub - <https://www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/sound-music-hub>