



Music Development Plan

Ratified:

October 2024

Chair of Governors:

Marie Linnane

Review:

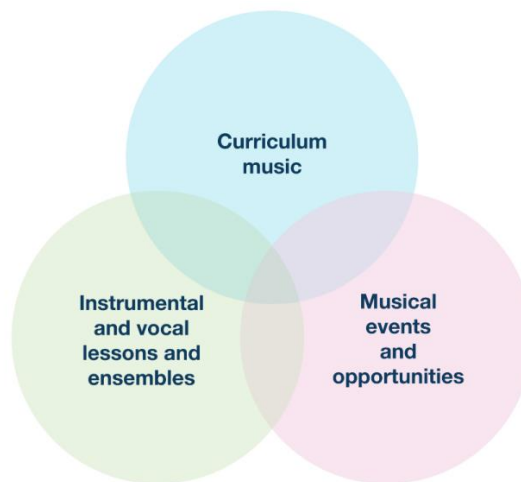
October 2025

Music development plan summary: Cuffley School

“Music is a cornerstone of the broad and balanced education that every child should receive. It touches hearts and minds, it celebrates and challenges, and it connects us and moves us.” – The Power of Music to change lives (June 2022)

Music is a statutory subject in the national curriculum for all children in primary school, and since the reformed national curriculum in 2014, higher standards of music education have been required. We aim high with our music provision and strive not only to embed, but exceed, the national curriculum. We believe that all our children, regardless of their background, should have access to a high-quality music education.

This development plan aims to set out Cuffley School’s approach to music, giving an overview of our curricular, co-curricular and musical experience offer (in line with the [national plan for music education](#).) These are three distinct, but interlinked areas of provision:



We want our pupils to realise their musical potential by equipping them with the musical tools needed for a lifetime of music-making and enjoyment. Our vision is to enable all our children to learn to sing, play an instrument and create music together.

The summary sets out Cuffley’s music provision for 2024-25 and what changes we are planning in future years. It refers to our existing partnership with South Herts Music Centre (SHMC). This information is to help all stakeholders understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils’ music education.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	October 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 2025
Name of the school music lead	Grace Hawksbee
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Charlotte Lloyd (DHT)
Name of local music hub	Hertfordshire Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	South Herts Music Centre (SHMC) Charanga Sing Up!

Part A: Curriculum music

Music lessons at Cuffley:

Our music curriculum at Cuffley School is delivered via the online scheme 'Charanga'. Music lessons are taught as carefully and robustly as any other foundation subject. Our music curriculum map details student's progression of musical knowledge from Nursery to Year 6. Using the grid below, adaptations are made in all music lessons to ensure that our curriculum is inclusive, accessible and enjoyable for all.

	Cognition and Learning	Social, Emotional and Mental Health	Communication and Interaction	Sensory and Physical
Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adapting how musical notation is represented Pre-teaching of the beat/pulse Pre-teaching of vocabulary/concepts Targeted questioning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-teaching of lyrics, texts and vocabulary Additional time to practice Songs with repetition Bespoke pre-arrangements with parents, pupils and staff around performances and performing to an audience for those with additional needs. Alternative options available to still be part of a performance (technical, stage management etc) Vertical concepts accessed at their developmental level Peer support Warning of what is to come in the sessions Reassurance given regarding performances – reduce or remove the need to perform in front of an audience Peer assistance – well-chosen peer support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of picture cues Vocab mats Working with untuned/percussion instruments Songs with repetition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the volume of music for those with sensory difficulties or use of sensory equipment such as ear defenders Sensory breaks Adapted instruments, music trays for pupils with physical needs Time-outs offered/permitted when needed

We have designed and crafted our music curriculum using guidance from the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), National Curriculum (NC), the Charanga scheme of work and the model music curriculum (March 2021). The Charanga scheme aligns well with the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021) and the National Curriculum, as it progresses on a week-by-week basis, ensuring learning outcomes are revisited throughout the Key Stages.

Alike to the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021), our music curriculum champions Listening, Understanding, Composing, Improvising and Singing/Instrumental Performance. It offers a diverse musical program that builds both musical techniques combined with musical knowledge.

Each music lesson offers a range of activities and musical experiences, starting with: interactive games, singing and vocal warm-ups, playing instrumental parts in a song, introducing and learning notation, improvisation and composing activities and an opportunity to perform and share. Specific vocabulary is displayed to support learning of musical knowledge and skills throughout each lesson.

As noted on the music curriculum map, teachers assess children's progress against the EYFS and NC on a half termly basis. Each unit of work has 1 or 2 Learning Intentions which children are then assessed against, enabling us to track whether children are working at the Expected Standard, Greater Depth or if they require extra support with their music education. Teachers are

encouraged to have an awareness of children's prior assessments to ensure learning is built upon year on year and musical talents are recognised.

Opportunities for pupils to learn to sing or play:

At Cuffley, we believe that singing is a golden thread throughout the primary years. The model music curriculum contains a large repertoire of songs for each year group. We provide opportunities in our lessons to learn new songs and rehearse familiar songs as well as incorporate these into our singing assemblies and singing and rhyme time. In Early Years and Key Stage 1; songs, rhymes and chants underpin all areas of study. In our music curriculum, we include a range of songs from different genres, ensuring children learn about the background of artists too.

During one of the half terms, every academic year, there is an assessment focus on singing from N-Y6. The teaching team conduct their assessments and are reflective, ensuring that all children have a clear next step in order to develop further.

During our music lessons, we provide our children with the opportunity to play tuned and un-tuned instruments. We continuously recap and rehearse prior learning, alongside building and developing new skills using the instruments. As a school, we are equipped with a class set of glockenspiels which we use in every unit of work. The children are given the opportunity to use the glockenspiels to learn how to play accurately and part of a performance. Once the children have developed their musical style using instruments in class they learn to use to instruments to improvise and compose.

As part of our music assessment, we assess the children's ability to play a musical instrument from Nursery to Year 6. The teaching team have clear learning intentions from the Early Years Foundation Stage and the National Curriculum to assess the children's ability to play musical instruments. We use these assessments to inform future planning, lessons and reflect upon adaptations for our SEND children.

School Partnerships:

As a school we have been working in partnership with the South Hertfordshire Music Centre (SHMC) to develop our musical offer for our children. The Hertfordshire Music Service have been effective in developing our offer of extra-curriculum music opportunities – see further details of this in Part B below.

Part B: Extra-curricular music

Cuffley School offer

At Cuffley School, we pride ourselves in giving pupils opportunities to sing and play music outside of lesson time, including one-to-one instrument tuition, ensembles/choirs, during performances and in after school clubs. We believe that all pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum and our aim is for all children to experience these extra-curricular activities during their time at Cuffley School.

First-Access tuition (for children new to playing an instrument):

All children in Year 4 learn the guitar for half an hour once a week, over a series of lessons. During this time, each child across the year group loans a guitar which they take home to practise in order to hone their skills. Children are given expert guidance and practise, with the aim of hosting a concert in front of parents following this tuition.

For those children who show great musical potential in the first access opportunities at Cuffley, our music subject leader and class teachers aim to approach parents on an individual level to offer further instrumental tuition. This could be 1:1 lessons during school time or at the music centre. For those parents or carers with particular circumstances (e.g. pupil premium eligibility), we can offer subsidised tuition using our Pupil Premium funding.

Instrumental tuition (for children wishing to master a chosen instrument):

At our school, all children in both KS1 and KS2 who wish to master a chosen instrument are offered a range of paid one-to-one instrument tuition including: piano, woodwind lessons, guitar and drumming. One-to-one singing lessons are also offered. These are taught during the school day in our music pods, providing a calm and focused atmosphere for learning. For those parents or carers with particular circumstances (e.g. pupil premium eligibility), we can offer subsidised tuition using our Pupil Premium funding. All musical successes and grading are shared with the whole school community through a published section in the whole school newsletter. All one-to-one music lessons are organised privately between parents and music teachers, with any new/upcoming opportunities noted in the school newsletter.

A school ensemble/choir:

At Cuffley, we also offer a choir for our children. Children are given the opportunity to practise in this small group ensemble once a week, performing their songs in front of selected audiences as and where possible.

We have opportunities for instrumental and vocal ensembles through the SHMC. Children are given expert guidance and practise once a week, with the aim of hosting a concert at the end of each term. Through this programme, children are exposed to a range of music genres and can pick contemporary songs to learn, practise and perform.

A termly school performance:

Children taking part in our guitar First-Access tuition as well as our choir have the opportunity to perform in front of parents at the end of term.

Musical Theatre Group:

We have a talented parent who comes and hosts an after school Musical Theatre Group bi-weekly for our KS1 children. The children are able to rehearse popular musical numbers, with opportunities for solo parts, which they then sing and perform to the whole school and parents at the end of the term. This is a paid for club, however we can offer subsidised sessions using our Pupil Premium funding.

There are a number of spaces throughout the school where children are welcome to practice individually or in groups, including two music pods.

SHMC Saturday offer

Each Saturday (8:30-1pm), SHMC offer one-to-one Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Violin, trumpet, French horn, piano, guitar and electric guitar lessons. Lessons are 20/30 or 60 minutes long (time can be shared between pupils, if requested by parents).

SHMC offer music ensembles, including:

- KS2 Music Makers – an introduction to music and musical elements, aimed at those who aren't yet learning an instrument or are new to learning an instrument. Each session is varied eg. Bucket drumming, singing, composing, musical notation.
- Ukulele Club (ages 7-11) – a club for children and their parents to learn together and play as a group (no experience necessary).
- Guitar Ensemble – an ensemble for those learning acoustic guitar to play with other guitarists.
- String Ensemble – an ensemble for young string players (primary age) to come and play together, learning how to play with an ensemble.

Instruments are available to loan from SHMC (subject to availability), here is a [link](#) for further information. Students have the opportunity to work towards exams following a collaborative discussion between parent/teacher/student. The most common exam boards that are used are ABRSM and Trinity.

Part C: Musical experiences

Performance Platform:

From Year 1 to Year 6, children with musical talent are handpicked to perform in weekly assemblies. They take pride in performing in front of their peers and learn a range of challenging songs to engage and stretch their music potential. This fosters a supportive and collaborative musical environment.

Year Group Performances:

We aim for every student at Cuffley to experience performing in front of an audience every academic year. Students with all musical abilities are offered opportunities to partake in musical performances. Early Years and KS1 present an annual nativity play that includes a range of songs, adding to the festive spirit, followed by Year 5 singing at the 'Cuffley Christmas Lights Switch-on'. At Christmas, each KS2 year group performs a chosen song at our local church, with an audience of parents in attendance, which creates a community-focused musical experience. Pupils receiving individual music tuition have the opportunity to showcase their talents during this concert. In Summer Term, Years 5 and 6 also do an end-of-year production, which features musical performances.

Musical experiences:

At Cuffley, all students participate in a weekly singing assembly. The programme Sing Up! is used to support the Music lead deliver these. Students rehearse familiar songs and learn new ones based on seasonal topics.

This year we are taking a group of Years 5 and 6 to the Royal Albert Hall to attend the Future Makers event. This is an opportunity to see other schools perform their own musical creations and aims to inspire young people to get involved in music.

We aim to provide our children with musical and theatrical experiences, for example attending a pantomime performance.

In the future

Although we are very proud of our musical offer here at Cuffley, we are also ambitious. We have lots of exciting plans moving forwards, these include:

Next step	Actions	Aim
Musical interest audit	Create audit of children's current involvement in musical groups, choirs, ensembles and community activities outside school.	Ensure extra-curricular music offer nurtures pupils' musicianship in order to build a vibrant musical community at school
Musical Visits/Trips	Organise visitors to come into school as well as trips out of school to see professional musicians perform (e.g. West End/National Theatre)	Experience being an audience member of a live professional performance (at least once a year).
Choir performance	Children in Years 5 and 6 to partake in performances to a wider audience.	Experience performing in front of an audience.
Music concert	Children to perform in a musical concert	
Achieve ' Music Mark Award ' for Cuffley School	Liaise with SHMC to achieve the following 3 criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - evidence of a willingness to engage in development conversations related to improving music provision - recognition of the value of music education as part of a broad and balanced curriculum - a strategy for music in place which provides for all children 	Cuffley school receives the Music Mark Award (range of benefits available on their website)