

# Music development plan summary 2024-25: Hiltingbury Junior School



## Overview

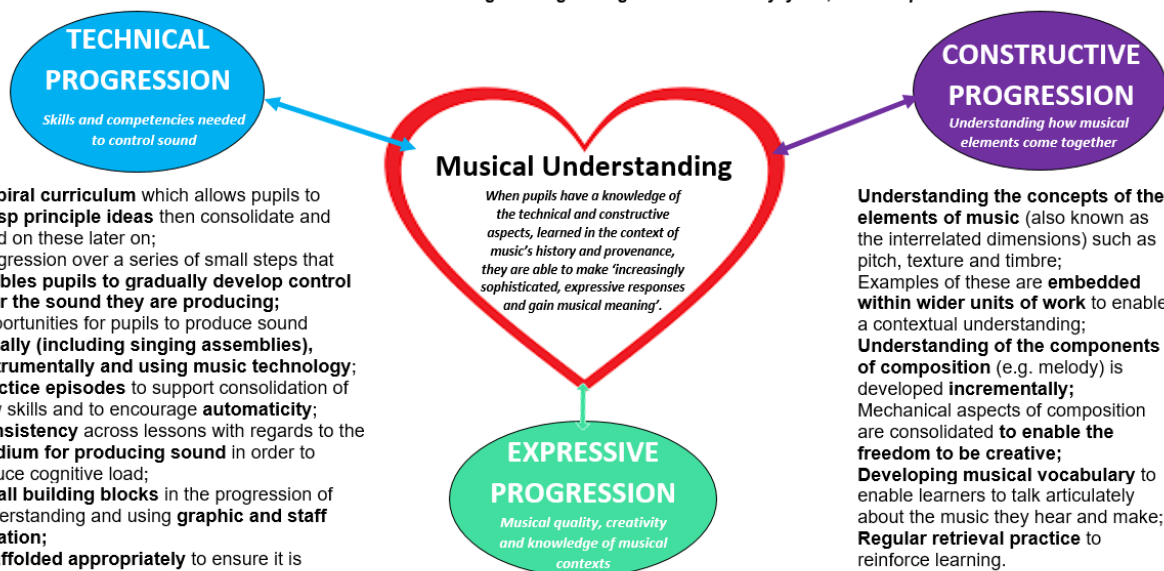
Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	February 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Eve Nurdin
Name of local music hub	Hampshire Music Service

*This is a summary of how Hiltingbury Junior 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.*

## Our Intent:

### Music at Hiltingbury Junior School

At Hiltingbury Junior School, we believe that Music engages and inspires pupils. It increases their self-confidence, creativity and gives them a sense of achievement. Music is a universal language that connects people of all ages and cultures, enhancing the experiences that shape us. 'Schools that have musical learning running through their veins are joyous, creative places'.



A spiral curriculum which allows pupils to **grasp principle ideas** then consolidate and build on these later on;  
Progression over a series of small steps that **enables pupils to gradually develop control over the sound they are producing**;  
Opportunities for pupils to produce sound **vocally (including singing assemblies), instrumentally and using music technology**;  
**Practice episodes** to support consolidation of new skills and to encourage **automaticity**;  
**Consistency** across lessons with regards to the **medium for producing sound** in order to reduce cognitive load;  
**Small building blocks** in the progression of understanding and using **graphic and staff notation**;  
**Scaffolded appropriately** to ensure it is **accessible to all**;  
Opportunities to make music **outside of the classroom**.

**Understanding the concepts of the elements of music** (also known as the interrelated dimensions) such as pitch, texture and timbre;  
Examples of these are **embedded within wider units of work** to enable a contextual understanding;  
**Understanding of the components of composition** (e.g. melody) is developed **incrementally**;  
Mechanical aspects of composition are consolidated **to enable the freedom to be creative**;  
**Developing musical vocabulary** to enable learners to talk articulately about the music they hear and make;  
**Regular retrieval practice** to reinforce learning.

**Quality is placed front and centre** when assessing work: 'simple and beautiful comes before complex but error strewn';  
Pupils **listen to a wide range of music** and develop an understanding of its **historical and cultural contexts**;  
Tasks are set at an **appropriate level** for pupils to be able to **realise their expressive intentions**;  
Pupils are given opportunities for **exploration and independence**.



## Part A: Curriculum music

*This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music.*

## Our Aim:

By the end of Year 6, all children should have:

- Performance skills to allow them to **sing** and **play musical instruments** with enjoyment and control.
- An understanding of how to **compose** and **improvise** using a range of different musical structures, such as scales and chords.
- A knowledge of how to read and represent music, both using graphic and formal **written notation**.
- An appreciation and knowledge of a **range of composers** and **genres**, and how they fit within the history of music and the wider world.

- A **wide musical vocabulary** and the skills to apply this knowledge to their listening, performing and composing.

**Overview:**

At Hiltingbury Junior School, we aim for all children to have access to an inspiring and challenging musical curriculum, with an emphasis on enjoyment and creativity. Music is taught through the key strands of listening and responding, performance and composition and improvisation, with the teaching of the interrelated dimensions of music embedded across all of these strands.

By the end of year 6, all children will have experienced a wide range of musical genres, cultures and composers and gained an understanding of how these pieces of music fit within music history. All children will also learn the basic skills of musical notation as they progress throughout the school.

**Curriculum design:**

Our school music curriculum is based on the Hampshire Music service 'Pathways to Musical Independence'. This is developed from the National Curriculum and Model Music Curriculum.

Where possible, the themes of each unit of work link with the topics and/or projects that are being studied, to deepen and embed the children's knowledge. Where this is not possible, the music taught will have a discrete musical focus to ensure full curriculum coverage.

**Teaching and Learning:**

At least 6 hours of curriculum time per class is allocated for music throughout the course of each term.

Within a unit of work, pupils will listen to high quality musical recordings, learn to perform vocally and/or using instruments, and compose or improvise their own music inspired by existing work or the themes of the topic.

Music lessons are fully inclusive for all and, where appropriate, scaffolds are provided to support children with SEND. This includes choice of musical part to perform, choice of how to record compositions and choice of instrument. Instruments are made more accessible by writing note names on keyboards, removing keys from xylophones or colour coding.

Our Year 4 pupils each have a term of Listen2Me, delivered by Hampshire Music Service, during which they have weekly whole-class ensemble teaching of violins and cellos.

For more details on each year group's curriculum, [click here](#).

## Part B: Co-curricular music

*This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music outside of lesson time and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.*

In addition to the core curriculum, we offer a range of enrichment opportunities for children to participate in, including instruction in a wide choice of musical instruments, a weekly choir and an annual family orchestra day.

### **Instrumental lessons:**

All children have the opportunity to sign up for instrumental lessons in school. We offer piano, guitar, violin, viola, cello, recorder, flute, clarinet and saxophone lessons to all pupils. Lessons take part during the school day, in the form of small group tuition. Parents are given information about which instruments are best to purchase, as well as how to hire them. Lessons cost £100 per year for recorder and £270 per year for all other instruments. Where pupils qualify for pupil premium, lessons are fully funded.

To ensure pupils are fully informed before applying to learn an instrument, we invite pupils and carers to an annual information evening in which they can learn more about all instruments on offer and ask any questions.

Music teachers offer a parent-teacher meeting each year. This is an opportunity for parents and carers to discuss the pupils' attitude to learning and progress with their teacher, as well as any upcoming exams or performances.

Pupils have the opportunity to work towards grade exams, and all are encouraged to perform in a concert at the end of the school year. String and woodwind players also learn to play in an ensemble context as part of their concert performance. In addition, children are encouraged to play their instrument to their peers in assemblies and talent shows throughout the year.

### **Choir:**

The Hiltingbury Junior School Choir has been running since 2007 and has performed in many different settings and contexts over the years. The choir meets every week, enjoying singing a wide range of songs, from show tunes to recent pop hits, rock and gospel classics.

All pupils are offered the opportunity to join our school choir, which runs for a 55 minute session after school each week. They can sign up for this at the end of the previous term at a cost of £2.50 per session.

### **Orchestral opportunities:**

Each year, we run a 'family orchestra day', during which all pupils who are learning an instrument (inside or outside of school) can take part. Parents, carers and other family members are also invited to join in for the day. This is an opportunity to learn about how orchestral and band music is structured, rehearse together and then perform in a concert at the end of the day.

Last year, in a change from the annual family orchestra day, some pupils took part in the Thornden Play Day, during which they worked with pupils from 3 other schools to rehearse and perform several orchestral pieces to a high standard. This was an excellent opportunity for some inter-school musical collaboration and is something that we would like to continue in the future.

## **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.*

### **Singing Assemblies:**

In addition to class music lessons, all pupils take part in weekly singing assemblies. As well as learning and rehearsing a song each week, these sessions involve improving singing technique, finding out background information about each song and practising more challenging skills such as 2 part harmony and singing in foreign languages.

### **Performance opportunities:**

Our school choir perform regularly in a range of venues throughout the academic year. Previous performances have included a care home, a garden centre café, a furniture store and Christmas collaborations with the Southampton Concert Wind Band in a nearby church.

We also build in regular performances for the school community. This includes singing in assemblies both in the Infant and Junior schools and during occasions such as Remembrance and the summer fayre. Every Christmas, the choir perform with members of the Thornden Community Windband as part of a Hiltingbury Christmas Carol evening.

In Year 4, each class performs in a concert at the end of their term of Listen2Me musical tuition. Each year, the whole year group also performs a song as part of their

Beowulf play, which includes percussion and piano playing from some children who are having music tuition.

Every summer, our Year 6 pupils audition, rehearse and perform a musical as a year group. The songs involve a combination of solo, small group and large ensemble singing. Previous shows include Aladdin, High School Musical and Matilda. Pupils who excel at playing a musical instrument become part of the accompaniment team to enable the children to become an integral part of the show both on and off stage.

## In the future

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

### **Curriculum:**

As our school continues to develop our new interconnected curriculum, the music lessons will be reviewed and adapted to ensure that the music content is driving or enriching each new curriculum project. This will include the creation of new units of music lessons where appropriate.

Each year group will plan in a performance opportunity as part of their new curriculum projects. We also plan to develop the range of musical experiences for all pupils by organising live music opportunities.

### **Choir:**

We will aim to further develop the quality of singing in choir by focusing on specific singing techniques to enhance the overall quality of sound of the choir.

### **Orchestra:**

From the start of the summer term, we aim to trial a weekly after school orchestra club, to enable pupils who play instruments to work together in an ensemble context on a regular basis.

## Further information (optional)

### **Links**

Hampshire Music Service:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/hampshiremusic>

The Department for Education guide for parents and young people (how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school):

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people>