Music development plan summary:
Noak Bridge Primary School:

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Matt Jones
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Essex Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rock Steady

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 Noak Bridge Primary School, music is taught from EYFS to Year 6, with at least 40 minutes of curriculum music each week. We use the Charanga Music Scheme as the basis for our curriculum, supporting the delivery of the National Curriculum and informed by the DfE Model Music Curriculum (2021).

Early Years and Key Stage 1

Music plays an important role in our youngest children's learning.

Reception children explore music through singing, rhythm activities and percussion instruments during adult-led sessions and continuous provision. These experiences

support the Early Learning Goals, helping to develop listening, language and coordination skills.

Children in EYFS and Key Stage 1 also take part in an annual Christmas production, learning songs, actions and simple performance skills. Parents, carers and members of the local care home community are invited to watch and celebrate the children's achievements.

Key Stage 2

In Key Stage 2, pupils build on their earlier musical experiences, developing greater confidence and independence in singing, instrumental playing, composition and performance. They explore a wider range of musical styles, cultures and traditions, develop their understanding of musical notation and experiment with creating and performing their own music. Pupils are encouraged to listen critically, evaluate performances and refine their musical ideas.

Musical learning and progression

Through Charanga, lessons follow a consistent structure, including listening and appraising, vocal and physical warm-ups, singing, instrumental learning, improvisation, composition, performance and reflection. This allows pupils to revisit and build on their musical knowledge and skills over time.

Pupils develop skills in singing, listening and appraising, composing, performing, notation and instrumental playing. Instrumental progression includes percussion in EYFS and Year 1; percussion and glockenspiel in Year 2; recorder and glockenspiel in Years 3 and 4; glockenspiel and recorder in Year 5; and keyboard in Year 6.

Inclusion and wider opportunities

Music is inclusive and accessible to all pupils. Teachers adapt activities, instruments, resources and levels of support to ensure pupils with SEND can participate fully. This may include visual prompts, additional adult support, adapted instruments and resources such as ear defenders.

Pupils also benefit from wider musical opportunities through choir, Rocksteady, workshops, performances and local music festival opportunities.

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.

At Noak Bridge Primary School, pupils have a range of opportunities to develop their musical skills beyond curriculum music lessons.

Instrumental tuition: Through Essex Music Service, pupils in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 can access individual instrumental lessons with a specialist music tutor. Lessons are usually weekly, with 10 lessons per term, and are arranged and paid for directly by parents/carers through Essex Music Service. Pupils can develop their skills beyond the classroom and work towards further instrumental progression where appropriate.

Rocksteady: Pupils can take part in weekly Rocksteady in-school band sessions, learning instruments including drums, bass guitar, electric guitar, keyboard and vocals. Children develop their instrumental and performance skills while working collaboratively as part of a band. Parents are invited to an end-of-year performance to celebrate pupils' progress.

Choir and ensembles: A free before-school choir is available to pupils in Key Stage 2. Pupils can join through the school and develop their singing, listening, teamwork and performance skills. The choir performs regularly in school and within the local community, including at the Basildon Music Festival at the Towngate Theatre, Eastgate Shopping Centre and the school's Christmas concert.

Wider musical opportunities: Pupils have opportunities to perform, rehearse and develop their musical confidence through choir, Rocksteady, instrumental tuition, workshops, festivals and school performances. The school works with Essex Music Service and external music providers to provide additional musical experiences and opportunities for progression.

The school aims to ensure that all pupils can access musical opportunities, with reasonable adjustments and additional support provided where appropriate for pupils with SEND and disabilities.

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.

Musical Experiences

During the **2026–2027 academic year**, Noak Bridge Primary School will continue to provide pupils with a range of musical experiences that allow them to perform, celebrate music and share their talents with the wider school and local community.

Pupils have regular opportunities to sing and perform as part of **whole-school assemblies, celebrations, concerts and special events**. Our **whole-school Christmas choir** is a key annual event, with each class learning and performing a Christmas song using **British Sign Language (BSL)**. This provides an inclusive opportunity for every pupil to take part in a shared musical experience and celebrates the school's deaf-friendly and inclusive approach to music.

Our **school choir** performs within school and in the local community. We aim to continue our annual Christmas performance at **Eastgate Shopping Centre**, where pupils sing Christmas carols for shoppers and visitors. These experiences help pupils develop confidence, performance skills and a sense of pride in representing their school.

Rocksteady in-school bands provide pupils with further opportunities to perform. Pupils work together throughout the term to develop their musical and performance skills, culminating in an **end-of-term performance** where parents and carers are invited to celebrate their achievements.

Children in **EYFS and Key Stage 1** take part in a Christmas production, learning songs, actions and simple performances. Parents, carers and members of the local care home community are invited to watch the children perform, providing pupils with a meaningful opportunity to share their learning with an audience.

A highlight of the school year is the **Year 6 musical production**, which celebrates pupils' musical and performance development and marks the end of their primary school journey. Year 6 pupils work collaboratively to rehearse songs, actions and performances before presenting the final production to parents, carers and members of the local community. The wider school also has the opportunity to watch the dress rehearsal, making this a special whole-school celebration.

Through these experiences, pupils are given regular opportunities to **perform, listen, sing, develop confidence and celebrate music together**, both within school and as part of the wider community.

In the future

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

In the coming years, we aim to continue developing and strengthening music provision for all pupils. Our plans include:

- Providing more opportunities for pupils to perform, compose and create their own music, allowing them to experiment with rhythm, melody and different instruments.
- Encouraging greater participation in co-curricular music, particularly supporting pupils who receive Pupil Premium funding and those with SEND, so that music is accessible to all.
- Continuing to monitor and improve the quality of teaching through lesson observations, pupil voice and teacher feedback, with professional development provided where appropriate.
- Continuing our partnership with Rocksteady Music School and exploring further opportunities for pupils to develop their instrumental skills.
- Introducing a drumming workshop to give pupils practical experience of music from different cultures and traditions, developing their understanding of rhythm and percussion.

Through these plans, we aim to nurture confidence, creativity and a lifelong enjoyment of music in every pupil.