

Music Development Plan Summary: Thames View Primary 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	Matt Gates
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	Kent Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Dynamics Medway Music Association Rock Steady Music

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.

We are passionate about providing exciting and enriching Musical opportunities for children here at Thames View Primary School. From Year R to Year 6, we aim to give children a varied and lively music curriculum that fosters a genuine love for the art form. Music is a fantastic way to build community, develop creativity and explore self-expression. Our vision is that all children, by the time they come to leave Thames View Primary School, will have experienced a wide variety of musical genres and have had the opportunity to learn a range of different instruments, both individually and as part of ensembles.

The Charanga music scheme is used to support teachers' subject knowledge and scaffold the children's learning all of the way from EYFS up to Year 6. This is a flexible, skills-based curriculum which is informed by the Model Music Curriculum. Charanga

facilitates lessons that develop all the central music skills of Performance, Composition, Singing and Listening and Appraisal. The Charanga music scheme enables staff the flexibility to use their own judgements and to teach what is relevant to their class, whilst keeping singing and instrumental musical engagement very much at the heart.

Our music curriculum is designed so pupils can become well-rounded musical individuals. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences which are designed to build confidence as well as musical skill. Children are encouraged to listen to, appreciate and explore different forms of music of increasing length as they move throughout the school in order that they can become reflective and expressive when exploring their own and others' music.

Within lessons, children develop an understanding of the elements of music by actively listening to a range of music, exploring and learning songs, composing and performing, and using a range of classroom instruments. Alongside the provisions at Thames View Primary, we also work with Medway Dynamics, the Kent Music Hub and Rock Steady Music to provide children with wider opportunities in music, which include instrumental skill.

Children receive the equivalent of one hour of music education over the course of a week. However, this may be "blocked" together, for example during curriculum 'Hook Days' so that particular teaching and learning experiences are more cohesive, for example: composition and performance projects that are delivered around a topic theme.

In addition to Charanga Music, the school works with Dynamics, Kent Music and Rock Steady Music to provide the children with wider musical opportunities:

- In Key Stage 1 and 2, children have the opportunity to participate in weekly music lessons with Rock Steady Music. These lessons culminate in termly performances to parents or other children in school.
- All children in Year 4 receive a weekly recorder lesson delivered by a Licensed Music Teacher with the aim of developing their ability to read, play and perform music as part of an ensemble.

To optimise outcomes for SEND pupils we provide help in managing the written communication aspects of music – such as the use of symbols – by using larger print, colour codes, multi-sensory reinforcement, and a greater emphasis on aural memory skills. Music vocabulary is continually referred to in music lessons to provide opportunities for children to understand how to apply their knowledge and skills in differing contexts. We maximise the learning experience with opportunities to learn about music through physical contact with an instrument, breaking tasks into manageable chunks and allowing rehearsal time before performance tasks. We use a lot of modelling, anticipate barriers and aim to establish a learning environment which promotes resilience.

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 KS2 children are invited to join our Young Voices Choir which performs annually at the O2 arena in Greenwich. This is delivered as a weekly after school club.
- All children are invited to join our Thames View Choral Choir which performs at events organised by Medway Music Association, for example: a Christmas Carol concert at Rochester Cathedral and/or An Easter Music Festival at The Central Theatre, Chatham.
- All children are invited to join a LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Art) club that is run after school and works towards performances that are held at such venues at the Glassbox Theatre.
- All children are invited to join a Guitar club that runs over one term a year.

Children in Year 4 are given the opportunity to learn the recorder (as described above). This lesson is delivered by a Licensed Music teacher and is funded by Dynamics. Instruments are loaned to the school by Dynamics. There is no cost to parents for these Year 4 recorder lessons.

Whilst children are encouraged to practice their instruments at home, if this is not possible, the Music Lead is happy to supervise children practicing in the Music Room at lunchtime if they request to do so.

The proportion of Pupil Premium and SEND children accessing extra-curricular music opportunities is in line with the rest of the school population.

Some children attend Saturday Music Centres and holiday courses run by Medway Music Association. The school ensures that they advertise upcoming events to all parents and students at the earliest possible opportunity.

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.

Our aim is to maximise the cultural capital children receive from the musical education they receive at Thames View Primary by exposing them to musical influences and pieces from a range of styles, artists and time periods.

At special times of the year (e.g. Christmas and at the end of the school year), the school holds assemblies where the children will sing together. KS2 children visit St Margaret's Church Rainham to participate and lead a Christmas Service. KS1 children participate in a Nativity that is held in school. Parents are invited to attend both events.

We invite parents to see instrumental performances by the pupils at points in the year, for example, the Year 4 recorders perform to parents in term 6 to showcase what the children have learnt over the year.

We often welcome visitors to the school who demonstrate Music from different genres and background. These events enthuse the children and inspire them to get involved in music and value it as an important and fun artistic expression.

In the future

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

We will continue to work with Kent Music and Dynamics to further develop music education at Thames View Primary. We would like to expand the recorder lessons to also include weekly lessons for Year 3.

We are in touch with Rochester Cathedral about beginning a choral singing project. Once availability permits, we will be seeking to begin welcoming a Choral Vocal instructor to the school.

Rock Steady Music lessons have started this year. If they prove successful and there is suitable levels of interest, we plan to expand these opportunities to include after school clubs.

We aim to further develop the capacity of staff to be able to support our participation in more choir events that are organised by Medway Music Association.

We aim to investigate ways in which we can give the children further opportunities to watch live music events as well as meeting visitors.

We aim to further develop parental understanding of the importance of music education so that a greater number of parents are willing to continue funding instrumental lessons once their child's funding has come to an end.

Further information

During this academic year, the Trust's Primary Music Leads will be working with Kent Music, Dynamics and Rock Steady Music to further develop music leadership across all of the Primary Academies.