

Music development plan summary: Mayflower Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	August 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Ama McKenley-Ballantyne & Anisha Jethwa
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Leicestershire Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Spark Arts

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 Mayflower, our music curriculum is informed by the model music curriculum. As well as singing lessons, whole-class ensemble teaching and our performances, music teaching is supported by Kapow. Our Mayflower Music Threads are:

- Listening and evaluating
- Creating sound
- Notation
- Improvising and composing
- Performing - singing and playing

Children from Orchard to Year 6 have weekly opportunities to sing with our singing teacher Emma Wilson. She has worked with our school for many years and links the music to festivals, celebrations, performances and to Young Voices.

This academic year, we will have a term of whole-class ensemble ukulele teaching in Year 3 and two terms of recorder teaching in Year 2. Year 3 take part in the annual De Montfort concert where they have musical instrument workshops as well as taking part in the performance. Our children from Year 4 – 6 will be attending Young Voices in February where they will perform as part of a 5000-voice choir at the Birmingham Arena.

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.

We offer our children the chance to learn an instrument but uptake for these has been consistently low. We have found that music education is not always a priority in the community that we serve but always provide this opportunity to our pupils.

Our Young Voices choir runs annually for children from Year 4 to 6 and children have weekly opportunities to sing with our singing teacher.

Our work with Leicestershire Music Hub ensures that our children experience music from a range of cultures across our broad and balanced curriculum. In general our children rehearse with the singing teacher in our main hall; staff rooms or classrooms. Sometimes as part of our celebration assemblies we sing in the playground, which is wonderful but dependent on the weather.

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.

As well as our work with Leicestershire Music, our school works closely with Spark Arts to arrange annual musical performances for our children. The children have really enjoyed this particularly the exposure to music from around the world. The children are part of the audience.

Our Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children will be taking part in a Windrush event at the Curve in October 2024. They will have the opportunity to work with a specialist music teacher to learn songs from the Caribbean; to perform at the Curve with another school and to watch the rest of the celebrations.

Each year group from Nursery through to Year 6 take part in at least one in-school performance throughout the year, where music plays a central role: Nursery show; Reception and Year 1 Nativity; Year 2/3 Performance; Year 4/5 Show and the Year 6 Leavers Show.

All of the in-school opportunities are free and the school usually covers the cost of the coach, with families paying the ticket price, and or a small contribution to travel.

In the future

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

We would like to ensure that Kapow is used on a bi-weekly basis across the school year so that children have a deep understanding and appreciation for music. Moving forward, we would also like to encourage more children to learn a musical instrument but also to attend some of the amazing free musical events in the city.

Further information (optional)

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Our local music hub is [here](#) and their plan for music in Leicester and Leicestershire is [here](#).

We work closely with [The Spark Arts for Children](#); attend [Young Voices](#); [Leics Make Music Concert](#) at De Montfort Hall and took part in the [Windrush: Better Together](#) concert at the Curve.