

Music development plan summary: Sparkenhoe Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	August 2027
Name of the school music lead	Angela Wilford
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Dan Cheetham
Name of local music hub	Leicestershire Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

In the Foundation Stage, Music is taught through exploration of different topics, through provision and discrete units. Children develop their understanding and skills through planned, incidental and child-initiated activities.

In KS1 and KS2, Music is taught through discrete units of work with 6 units in each year group, in a predominantly spiral curriculum that integrates new learning. All children in Years 1 to 6 have a weekly music lesson, lasting for one hour. In Year 4, the children have weekly brass lessons, teaching them specific instrumental skills. They have their own instrument which they can take home to practice. The curriculum is based on the Leicestershire Music scheme of work with some adaptations to allow all children at Sparkenhoe to experience learning to play various instruments throughout their time at school. These units are:

Year 1: Boomwhackers
Year 2: Ocarinas
Year 3: Glockenspiels
Year 4: Brass
Year 5: Boomwhackers
Year 6: Ukulele

Each year group also has a unit where singing in various forms is the key outcome. This scheme of work has clear progression routes and has been chosen to ensure that children at Sparkenhoe experience music lessons which are engaging, high quality and enrich the lives of the children. Music is taught by a specialist in Years 1 to 6. The curriculum at Sparkenhoe meets the requirements of the 2021 Model DFE music curriculum.

Further details can be found on the school website.

<https://www.sparkenhoe.leicester.sch.uk/our-curriculum/curriculum-organisation>

At Sparkenhoe, we understand the importance and joy music can bring to the children we teach. All children take part in music lessons, including pupils with SEND. Adaptations are made as appropriate to individual needs.

Sparkenhoe works closely with the Leicestershire Music Hub to support curriculum development, delivery and CPD.

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.

In addition to weekly music lessons, children are exposed to music from a variety of genres during assemblies and class time. Music is incorporated into a variety of activities and events within school, such as weekly assemblies and special celebrations.

All children take part in a Year group dramatic performance to a wide audience of children and parents which includes learning and performing a number of songs as a group. Some children sing in smaller groups and as soloists.

We offer extracurricular activities throughout the year, including guitar lessons and recorder club.

We have a large, established school choir with children from Years 3 to 6. The choir practices weekly and prepares for a variety of different performances throughout the year. The choir perform at various events in school to children and parents as well as

external events at De Montfort Hall and Curve. Children learn a variety of songs of differing complexities. They sing in different group sizes and some children perform solos.

Each class learns to play instruments together, culminating in a music showcase at the end of the year.

Children who join after school clubs learn to play as an ensemble and perform as groups.

Children in Year 4 take their instrument home to practice and perform to parents. Children who attend after school clubs take their instrument home.

All in school and after school clubs are free apart from guitar lessons. There is a small charge for these.

We sign post parents to Leicestershire Music for additional tuition or groups.

As part of the Leicestershire Music hub, we take part in additional activities to enhance the curriculum and extra curricula offer, when appropriate.

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.

All children, including those with special educational needs and disabilities have many opportunities to perform to an audience of children, parents and other adults.

As part of music lessons, children in all year groups perform to each other through singing and playing instruments they have learnt.

Every year group takes part in a dramatic performance once a year which includes learning and singing a number of songs to a large audience. The Year 6 Shakespeare performance includes a significant number of complex songs performed by the whole group, smaller groups and soloists.

All children learn and sing songs to a large audience in the school annual Christmas concert. The guitar group also perform a mixture of group and individual pieces. Other groups, such as the recorder club and the choir also perform as part of this.

Year 4 children build up to an end of year brass performance for parents and other children. They apply the skills they have learnt over the year to play various pieces on their instruments as a whole group, in sections and with some soloists.

The school choir perform at a variety of school concerts and as part of Leicestershire music massed choir events. The choir always join the massed choir at de Montfort Hall at one of the events and are regularly invited to perform at Curve.

Every year, Year 3 and 4 children attend the Philharmonia Orchestra Unwrapped Schools' Concert at the local theatre. They experience a world class orchestra first hand. In preparation, classes learn an audience participation piece.

One year group takes part in the annual Leicester Let's Make Music Festival which includes an interactive concert with an orchestra showcasing all styles of music.

At the end of the year, children from all year groups perform a music showcase assembly to parents. Groups include various instrumental pieces and the school choir.

In the future

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

- Survey children to establish after school music clubs they would like.
- Plan and establish clubs if feasible.
- Invite parents to join in a music lesson with their children.
- Consider in school awards that children could achieve for music – link to school values.