

Music development plan summary

Foxdell Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	November 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Rohila Nisar
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Luton Music Service
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

At Foxdell Primary School, we believe that music is a powerful and unique art form that can influence the way pupils feel, think and act. It affects creativity and aesthetic development and can develop sensitivity in children and can illustrate the fulfilment to be found in creative expression. Pupils are exposed to a wide range of musical styles and experience making compositions of their own. We are proud to be a Music Mark School for recognising the value of music education as part of a broad and balanced curriculum and for having a strategy for music in place which provides for all children.

We work with the Luton Music Service to provide enhanced music provision for all of our children which is delivered by music specialist teachers. Every class has a 30 minute timetabled lesson once per week. In addition, children from Year 1 to Year 6 attend a 30 minute weekly singing assembly and Reception children join these in the Summer term.

In each year group, children have a different focus that they use to cover the strands of the music curriculum including performing, composing and listening.

The music provision is progressive as follows:

- Early Years- children are introduced to a large variety of genres of music and will move to it showing the pulse, using body movements, body percussion and dance scarves.
- Year 1- children explore and continue to understand the concepts of pulse and rhythm through songs, chants and rhymes, music games and activities and playing instruments.
- Year 2- children continue their work from year 1 learning to understand and respond to pulse and rhythm in much more depth, as well as exploring the use of dynamics, pitch and tempo.
- Year 3- (Revise) Musical Mix: Djembe, Glockenspiel, Boom Whackers, Recorder
- Year 4- (Embed) Children learn to play the recorder
- Year 5- (Extend) Children learn to play the Violin
- Year 6- : (Deeper Learning) Children learn a range of tuned and untuned percussion instruments

Luton Music Service provides the planning and progression of skills in Music. Lessons are delivered by specialist teachers who discuss progress and next steps. Teachers take part in the lessons and this supports CPD and music confidence.

This year, all of the children in Year 3 and 4 are taking part in the Finish This... project with ENO. *Finish This...* invites pupils to step into the role of an ENO Composer and respond to, and resolve, a purposefully unfinished operatic piece titled '*Blue, Red, Yellow...*'. Immersing themselves into the Composer role, they will embrace their imaginations and experiment with music, colours and text, to create their own bespoke response ending – all through the lens of opera.

In Reception, children learn nursery rhymes, number songs and well known songs weekly and sing these in small groups, whole class and on a 1:1 basis with adults as part of expressive art and design. The children have access to a range of instruments and sound-makers throughout continuous provision to create their own music.

All pupils are encouraged to join music lessons. Some SEN pupils find music therapeutic and particularly show more focus during Singing Assemblies. All teachers join the music lessons and work with the music specialist teachers to ensure that lessons are adapted to meet the needs of all pupils. Children are encouraged to use their voices expressively and to use different forms of communication – such as gestures – to compensate for difficulties when singing and speaking. Physical contact with an instrument and/or sound source enables those that have sensory needs.

Our full curriculum can be found here: <https://www.foxdellprimary.uk/music-2/>

Part B: Co-curricular music

We are fortunate to have many opportunities for the children to develop their music skills. Our singing assemblies take place with a wide range of songs being learnt and performed. The children take part with confidence and enthusiasm. All staff joining singing assemblies are encouraged to enthusiastically take part. This supports a positive singing culture to be embedded across the school.

Children in Years 3 to 6 have the opportunity to join the school choir. The choir rehearses weekly giving opportunities for children from across the school to learn and perform together. The choir is taught by a music specialist teacher from the Luton Music Service and this is a free of charge after school club.

The choir has opportunities to join in large-scale performances both in and outside of school throughout the year, performing in different venues. They perform at the annual school summer fair. They also join the Young Voices event in Wembley, performing in a large orchestra. In the summer, they take part in the Singing Spectacular alongside other Luton Schools.

Throughout the year our children enjoy taking part in a Christmas Assembly, music performances for parents and singing within class assemblies. Children in Reception and KS1 perform plays to parents and singing is a big part of this.

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.

Throughout the year, children have opportunities to join in large-scale performances both in and outside of school. Children sing as a whole school in the weekly assembly and in special/ religious event celebrations such as Christingle and Harvest.

Our children have exciting opportunities to showcase their skills and talents at the Young Voices Concert which has over 5,000 choir members across the UK performing a showcase of songs that they have learned throughout the year at the OVO arena in Wembley. The choir also performs to a slightly smaller audience at the singing spectacular in Luton, where they collaborate with several other schools to perform to an audience of family and even some of the staff.

At the end of KS2, Year 6 perform a musical to the rest of the school and to their parents. The dance club performs to the rest of the school. Children also enjoy pantomimes during the school year (at Christmas and at the end of the school year).

In the future

In future years, our Music Development Plan aims to achieve the following:

- Continue to develop a school choir and children's performance skills with more opportunities to perform throughout the year.
- Find opportunities to perform within the community, invite community members in to perform to our children.
- Provide more opportunities to watch live music performances and develop a strong pupil voice.
- Continue to work with the Luton Music Service to provide high quality music lessons for our children and provide our staff with CPD to continue to develop their confidence and subject knowledge.
- Contact secondary schools and explore possible performance opportunities for their students.
- Improve children's understanding and appreciation of different music genres by introducing different genres and classical, jazz, pop and world music at the start and end of assembly times and explore music of the half term.
- Develop a dedicated music teaching space by transforming the old IT Suite into a Music Room. This will be used for music lessons and will offer a space for children to enjoy displays and reading books about music and famous musicians through the ages.
- Continue to signpost external family events to support parents with musical learning.
- Introduction of a wider range of instruments on offer for small group or individual lessons.
- Further develop engagement in extracurricular music for Pupil Premium and SEND children.