

Chadsmead Primary Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Jayne Miles
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Gemma Grainger
Name of local music hub	Entrust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

The National Plan for Music Education (NPME) recommends the following:

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

At Chadsmead Primary Academy, we have a strong tradition in music and have been meeting most of the recommendations of the NPME for many years. This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas - curriculum music, extra-curricular music and musical experiences – as well as 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 Chadsmead, we want our children to develop a real enjoyment of music by having opportunities to perform, compose, listen and respond. We aim to provide the foundation of music skills that can be developed throughout pupils' continuing education as well as something to be enjoyed throughout their lives.

From September 2024, pupils from Early Years through to Year 6 will have music lessons based on the Sing Up music scheme. This new scheme covers all aspects of the National Curriculum for music: it builds skills over time and ensures progression from one year to the next.

EYFS music lessons are timetabled for around thirty minutes each week. Children have additional musical activities (when appropriate) as part of their continuous provision. In addition to this, Reception pupils have regular singing sessions with the school's music lead. Music lessons take place in the child's classroom and in the KS1 Hall.

Key Stage 1 class music lessons are fifty minutes long and are timetabled weekly. These take place in our dedicated music room within the KS2 building. We have a wide range of percussion instruments which the children use regularly. Lessons are taught by the school's music lead. In addition to class music lessons, pupils also take part in a weekly singing assembly along with KS2 pupils.

Key Stage 2 class music lessons are sixty minutes long. Pupils are taught in alternate three-week blocks. Lessons take place in our KS2 music room with the music lead. In addition to class music lessons, pupils take part in a weekly singing assembly with the music lead. This maintains continuity of music skills throughout the school year.

The music lead and school leaders are passionate about the importance of music in our school; we continually strive to improve our provision and provide high-quality musical experiences for our pupils. The needs of pupils with SEND are met within lessons: teaching is adapted appropriately to ensure that we meet the requirements of individual pupils.

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 Key Stage 2 children have the opportunity to take part in extra-curricular music lessons. Each May, we contact parents and offer a range of instrumental lessons for the forthcoming academic year. Lessons are booked with Entrust, our local music hub, who provide peripatetic teachers for the instruments we require. Currently, the range of instrumental lessons at Chadsmead includes woodwind, keyboard/piano, guitar, drum kit and violin.

We aim to make instrumental tuition affordable for all pupils. We do this by offering small group tuition (groups of four children) at a cost of £150 per year. (This is subsidised by the school for those children who are entitled to free school meals so that they pay £75). We also offer ensemble tuition in larger groups. In Y3/4 we have violin and in Y5/6 we have guitar. These ensembles tend to include around twelve children; more general music skills are developed than in the smaller groups. The cost of the ensemble tuition is £60 per year. Instrument loan is included in the lesson price for some of these lessons.

In addition to our regular instrumental provision, this academic year we have whole class ensemble teaching (WCET). Our Year 3 pupils, along with their teacher and teaching assistant,

are learning to play brass instruments (mainly cornet and trombone). This is due to funding from The Friends of Lichfield Festival and Entrust, meaning that this one-hour lesson each week is fully funded for our pupils.

Sometimes our instrumental pupils are recommended by their teachers for Young Sounds funding (formerly called AYM). This means that significant skill has been identified. Subject to this recommendation from a teacher, as well as the meeting financial criteria (parental income of less than £32,728 per year) funding can be applied for these pupils.

Our weekly school choir for any KS2 pupils is free to attend. Choir is led by a member of staff from Entrust as well as the music lead. Our choir perform regularly as part of our school concerts. In recent years, there have been 25-30 pupils who attend regularly.

Entrust music teachers invite pupils to attend local music centre ensembles once they have achieved the relevant standard of playing. These take place out of school time at one of our Lichfield high schools.

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated music room in KS2 with a wide range of untuned percussion instruments, a piano, four keyboards, a drum kit, class sets of glockenspiels, guitars, violins, djembes and ukuleles. The room is timetabled each week for class music lessons, instrumental lessons and can be used for instrumental practice (by arrangement) for those pupils without instruments at home.

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.

We are keen for our children to develop a love of singing and to enjoy performing together. Music is always at the heart of our whole-school celebrations and we have many performance each year.

Children in reception sing regularly in sessions with the music lead. Those in KS1 & KS2 attend a weekly singing assembly in which children learn songs, join in with a rhythm activity using music notation and also listen to/learn about our composer of the month.

The songs we learn often lead to performances for parents: Harvest (KS2), Christmas (separate performances for EYFS, KS1 and KS2) and Easter (KS1& KS2). In addition to these performances within school, Year 5/6 perform outside of school each year, alternating between venues in Lichfield (eg. MusicShare / Lichfield Festival, Lichfield Fuse Festival) and Resorts World, Birmingham (Young Voices). In January 2025, we will be taking part in Young Voices.

Many of our instrumental pupils demonstrate their skills in our annual Summer Music Concert in May. This helps to promote our uptake of instrumental tuition for the next academic year.

One of our most popular events each year is Chadsmead's Got Talent, held in June, in which any pupils from Years 1-6 can choose to take part. Y6 always feature, dancing with their teacher, and many of the staff also perform. This is always a superb evening which the children and their parents value highly. Whilst our other performances are free to attend, this concert is held out of school time and is a fundraiser. Money raised is reinvested in our music provision.

Year 6 always end our year of performances with their Leavers' Service, held on the last day of the summer term.

At Chadsmead, we also see the importance of children experiencing music from professionals. Each week, as part of our 'Composer of the Month', children see video footage of musicians and orchestras. We aim to see as many live performances as possible: in alternate years, the children watch the pantomime at The Garrick in Lichfield or watch a streamed pantomime in school. Every year, we invite musicians from Entrust's 'Music Live' concert series and when available, musicians visit from our local high schools.

In the future

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

As part of our deep dive process, and in consultation with Entrust as part of our music audit, we have identified three areas for development:

- Whole school transition to use Sing Up curriculum music resources from September 2024.
- Improve the range of instruments/resources for Nursery and Reception children as these classes do not use the music room.
- Develop our assessment and evidence.

The music lead will develop these three areas during the academic year 2024/2025.

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.

Your local [music hub](#) should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.

