

Music development plan summary: Overchurch Junior School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026/2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Isabelle Connolly
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Love Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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 Overchurch Junior School, our children develop a love and understanding of music through listening to, composing, analysing, performing and making music together.

Music is a highly valued subject which is taught in hourly sessions and children will receive lessons every two weeks out of three. Through our links with the Infant School, we know that Music and the appreciation of music is introduced to children from an early age. In the Early Years, pupils are exposed to a variety of genres and styles from different periods. Children are taught the key skills of listening and appraising and are introduced to the vocabulary needed to share their thoughts and opinions and identify the basic features of music.

Our curriculum is based upon the four sections of the Model Music Curriculum: singing, listening, composing and performing. The learning outcomes for each year group can be found in our Music Long Term Plan:

https://www.overchurch-junior.wirral.sch.uk/docs/Music_LTP_2026-27.pdf

We use the learning resource of KAPOW which has been designed to give children a high quality and interesting learning experience. We have specifically selected topics so that children can explore music both from across the world and throughout history. The History of Music is also explicitly taught to children at the beginning of each year. An overview of how our curriculum explores music from around the world and throughout history can be found on our website.

The development of key musical terms and vocabulary is imperative. Children aspire to learn, use and develop aspirational technical vocabulary when listening to and analysing music. This is further highlighted and recognised in our Music Long Term Plan.

Pupils are given lots of opportunities to use instruments throughout lessons. We have a range of musical instruments within school, including glockenspiels and African djembes. Our curriculum is designed so that children are able to learn how to play already known songs and compose their own using instruments.

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.

There are lots of opportunities for children to sing and play music outside of lesson time at Overchurch Junior School.

Children are also able to join our after-school choir which is run by our school music lead. This is open to every child in school and is run for an hour on a Wednesday. Children will learn a variety of songs throughout the year and have many performance opportunities. These have included: Young Voices; performing for the 60th anniversary of 'Ferry Cross the Mersey' on the Mersey Ferries; performing at professional events for Lead Learners Trust; Christmas and end of year performances for family and friends and regular performances in whole school assemblies.

Additional opportunities throughout the year are available to the children to learn how to play tunes on the glockenspiel.

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.

Overchurch provides a wide variety of musical experiences throughout the year, including a weekly singing assembly and seasonal celebrations. For example, all children attend church on the build-up to Christmas to sing carols.

The choir also performs regularly throughout the term: performing in front of parents, their peers, visitors and at professional events.

During school time, every child is given the chance to perform in our Christmas concerts. Children learn festive songs to perform in front of a live audience as part of an ensemble. Some children are given the opportunity to learn songs on the glockenspiels for this as well. Year 3 put on a Christmas Nativity which is performed to a live audience.

Year 6 children will also perform an 'Leavers Production' at the end of the year in which they learn a range of songs and performance techniques.

We aim to find as many musical experiences as we can each year. This year the children in Year 3 are visiting the philharmonic to watch their orchestra perform as well as Future Yard visiting for an interactive performance for the whole school.

We strive to sing as often as we can in assemblies each week. We understand the benefit music and singing can have for children's mental health and wellbeing. We teach this to children and ensure it is part of a daily life throughout school, whether this be listening to music or making it.

In the future.

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

Our plans to improve our music offer to children further our the following:

- The music curriculum has been well planned out and is continually being assessed and improved to provide the best possible musical possibilities and outcomes for our children. Cross curricular links will continue to be made in line with the schools ongoing developing curriculum and these can be established as the curriculum is developed in other foundations subjects throughout the next academic year. Performance opportunities for the children will continue. This will allow the children to showcase their work and to share what they have done with others.

- Continue to look for more opportunities for children to listen to high quality music performances. We strive that every child in school will experience this at least once a year.
- Have a wider offer of instrument lessons available to our children within school.
- Provide a whole class instrument lesson for one of our year groups.
- Continue to create performance opportunities for our children with the aim of having at least one each term.

Further information (optional)

Use this space to provide any further information about your school's music development plan, including links to your local music hub partners, other local music education organisations and contacts.

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.

If your school is part of a multi-academy trust with a trust-wide music development plan, you may also want to include a link to any published information on this plan.