

Music development plan summary: Whitburn Village Primary 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	Jill Grieveson
Name of local music hub	South Tyneside
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	South Tyneside/ Tees Valley Music hub

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 Whitburn Village Primary School, we utilise Charanga. Charanga provides a structured, progressive music curriculum that supports high-quality weekly classroom teaching from EYFS to Year 6. Lessons follow a consistent cycle of listening, singing, playing, improvising, composing and performing, ensuring pupils develop secure musicianship over time. The scheme includes whole-class instrumental learning (such as glockenspiel, recorder and ukulele), a strong singing programme, diverse listening repertoire and clear progression in notation from simple graphic scores to staff notation. Charanga is designed for weekly curriculum lessons of around 45–60 minutes and includes built-in assessment opportunities that help teachers track musical development. While Charanga does not offer formal qualifications, its instrumental pathways and musicianship progression prepare pupils for external awards such as ABRSM Prep Tests, Music Medals and local Music Hub beginner certificates. The scheme also supports wider musical participation through performance opportunities, ensemble development and routes into choir, ensuring pupils experience a rich and inclusive music education within lesson time.

Also, as part of the music curriculum entitlement, this includes weekly assemblies; where children get the chance to listen and perform; harvest festival and Christmas Performance, including practice and other events linked to the South Tyneside music hub.

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.

At Whitburn Village Primary School we are fortunate to have the opportunity to offer music tuition through the local music service where children are offered opportunities to learn a range of instruments and pay privately for tuition. We currently have a choir in school accessible to all pupils from Year 1 through to Year 6. The choir learn a range of vocal pieces and perform them during termly celebration assemblies in front of the wider school community. The choir are also given the opportunity to perform out of school for example in the local parish church, at community events as well as in the South Tyneside Music festival. Staff also run a recorder club in school, again offered to children in Years 1-6. This club aims at developing competence in reading music notation, performing as well as learning to play a specific instrument.

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.

At Whitburn Village Primary School we strive to provide opportunities for our children to experience a wide range of musical events. Each week we have a 30 minute whole school singing assembly where a peripatetic pianist comes in to play the piano. The children enjoy singing a range of musical genres. We have an Annual Harvest Festival for the Infants and Juniors, where pupils sing together, either in school or at the local church. We also sing together for our Christmas Concerts: EYFS perform a Nativity Musical Play and the rest of the school perform songs and share activities along a Christmas theme. On the last afternoon of the Autumn term the whole school comes together to perform our Christmas celebration at the local parish church. This includes singing, readings and some percussive accompaniment. At Easter time, the parents are invited in to share our Easter R.E. curriculum activities as well as listen to the children singing. We also visit the Parish church at this time too. Year 6 have a Leaver's Concert each summer. This year, as part of the curriculum, our pupils are going to write and perform their own leavers' song. Previously our choir were invited to take part in the South Tyneside Music festival at the Customs House. If the opportunity

arises, children sometimes get opportunities to watch performances outside of school, such as secondary school musicals, pantomimes and shows.

In the future

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

At Whitburn Village Primary School we would like to:

- Introduce a wider range of whole class instruments.
- Provide more opportunities for children to experience cross curricular music.
- Provide more opportunities for the children to experience live music.
- Further promote the opportunities for music tuition within the music hub.
- Develop links with the local secondary school.