

Music development plan summary: Clearwater C of E Primary Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Amanda Pritlove
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Gloucestershire Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	The Music Works Gloucestershire Academy of Music (GAM)

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.

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.

Music is a vehicle for personal expression and it can play an important part in the personal development of people. It also plays a crucial role in helping children feel part of a community. Music is a unique means of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. As music reflects different cultures and societies, the teaching and learning of music thus enables children to better understand the world in which they live. Besides being a creative and enjoyable activity, music can also be a highly academic and demanding subject. At Clearwater Academy, we provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music. Children develop the skills to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music they hear.

Aims

The objectives of teaching music in our school are to enable children to:

- know and understand how sounds are made and then organised into musical structures;

- know how music is made through a variety of instruments;
- know how music is composed and written down;
- know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written;
- develop the interrelated skills of performing, composing and appreciating music.

Teaching and Learning

At Clearwater Church of England Academy, we make music an enjoyable learning experience. We encourage children to participate in a variety of musical experiences through which we aim to develop the confidence of all children. In Music, it is our intent that pupils will **joyfully** engage with a scope of musical genres and seek to appreciate how these styles of music have contributed to the lives of others. This will include exploring musical styles from a diversity of cultures and being able to respond to these **respectfully** and **compassionately** in their own way. Children develop descriptive skills in music lessons when learning about how music can represent feelings and emotions. Pupils will know how music is influenced by the time, place and purpose for which it was written. Our pupils will **achieve** a secure understanding of the vocabulary needed to describe pieces of music and the understanding required to improvise, compose and perform, within their **community**, in different contexts. Our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to sing in tune and with other people. Through singing songs, children learn about the structure and organisation of music. We teach children to make music together, to understand musical notation, and to compose pieces. Most notably, it is through these performance opportunities that pupils show **courage**, aspiring to be the best they can be and realising their full potential.

Our school uses the new Model Music Curriculum Charanga Scheme of Work as the basis for its curriculum planning. Each term classes focus on a different disciplinary skill including: listening and appraising, singing, improvisation, composition, performing and digital music making. Lessons are timetabled for 30 minutes per week in KS1 and KS2.

The Early Years Foundation Stage

We teach music in reception classes as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. As the reception class is part of the Early Years Foundation Stage of the National Curriculum, we relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs) which underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five. Music contributes to a child's personal and social development. Counting songs fosters a child's mathematical ability, and songs from different cultures increase a child's knowledge and understanding of the world. Within the EYFS, children will sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs. They will perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others and try to move in time with music.

Access for pupils with SEND

Our spiral curriculum is purposely designed so that skills are revisited regularly and therefore embedded. High expectations are set for all pupils, including those with SEND. We recognise the fact that we have children of differing ability in all our classes, and so we provide suitable challenge or support to enable all children to succeed. We achieve this through a range of strategies which are differentiated by task, expected outcome and/or support from peers or adults.

Partnerships with our local music hub

At Clearwater Academy we have a strong partnership with Gloucestershire Music (soon to be known as the GSW Music Hub) and its affiliates including GAM and The Music Works. Through these partnerships, we have taken part in a number of projects. Our most recent of these is the Voice Collective: a 9 weekly one-hour song writing workshops where our Year Six pupils wrote an original song blending genres, creating their own lyrics, melodies, harmonies and backing track. They also filmed their own music video at a professional recording studio. We are also part of the 'Stand By Me' project that links primary school children and residents of care homes together through music. This collaboration has proven benefits to everyone who takes part, improving communication skills and confidence, breaking down intergenerational barriers and reducing social isolation.

Music tuition, choirs and ensembles

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.

Additional music teaching

Whole class Violin lessons are provided to Year One children for two terms of the year and whole class Recorder lessons are taught to Year Two children for two terms of the year. Children are offered the opportunity to learn Violin or the piano with peripatetic teachers. Peripatetic music teaching is provided by Gloucester Academy of Music. These lessons are normally taught on a one to one basis or to small groups of children in a designated music room. This is in addition to the normal music teaching of the school, but takes place during curriculum time. Parents who want their children to participate in the scheme must purchase or hire the instrument and pay the additional music lesson fees on a termly basis. Support is provided for those in receipt of Pupil Premium funding.

IRocks is also provided for children who are interested in learning to play in a band. Children can choose whether to learn the drums, keyboard, electric guitar or vocals. As a band, the children then pick their own band name and the songs they'd like to play. Under the guidance of an iRock music teacher, children rehearse in an allocated classroom for 30 minutes weekly in the lead up to end of term concerts. Parents who want their children to participate in IRocks must pay music lesson fees on a termly basis. Support is provided for those in receipt of Pupil Premium funding.

The school choir and musical events

We believe that music enriches the lives of people, and so we wish to involve as many children as possible in musical activities. We have both a KS1 and KS2 school choir which we encourage all children to join from their Reception year. The choir meets on a weekly basis and, although its primary aim is to enable children to enjoy singing together, it also performs in public on a number of occasions throughout the year.

We provide opportunities throughout the year for budding musicians to perform for the school community. This includes solo and ensemble performances as part of assemblies and concerts. This recognises their achievements and celebrates their success.

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.

Singing in Assemblies

Every term a different World Music becomes a focus during Collective Worships. As children enter and leave the hall, they listen to music from the focus country for that half term. In Autumn 2024, this will be Scottish Music and in Spring 2025 this will be music from Mexico.

Worshipful Praise takes place once every other week. During this time the school community learn more about the music from the chosen country and make links to the musical vocabulary of pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, pulse and rhythm. Children also enjoy singing traditional English assembly songs as a whole school ensemble during this time.

Christmas productions

Every December EYFS perform a traditional nativity play to parents and KS1 perform a more modern interpretation of the story. KS2 perform a carol concert for their parents. The PTA also fund a Christmas pantomime that comes into school for children to enjoy.

Musical performances

Through our collaboration with Gloucestershire Music hub, we have welcomed many musical performers into our school to enrich the experiences of our children. In the past these have included the Carducci String Quartet and a pianist recital. These are provided free of charge to pupils. We will continue to sign up for more of these experiences as and when they are provided by our Music hub.

All children that learn an instrument either through our peripatetic teacher or through IRocks will have the opportunity to perform to the school and their parents in termly concerts. These instrumental lessons incur a cost to parents however support is provided for those in receipt of Pupil Premium funding.

During Enrichment week in July, we watch the free recording of the London Sinfonietta Sound Out Concert for schools. In their annual concert, presenter Patrick Bailey, London Sinfonietta musicians and the Sound Out Young Ensemble explore how to compose and create new music. Children at Clearwater Academy listen to pieces by living composers, join in with the performance and hear new work by young people who have taken part in London Sinfonietta's Sound Out and Composition Challenge programmes.

Links to the community

Links to our local community are strong. Every December, we sing for elderly members of Age UK at the local library and to our school community during St James' Church Harvest festival celebrations. We are part of the 'Stand By Me' project that links our EYFS/Year One children and residents of Chestnut Court Care Home together through music. This collaboration improves our children's and the resident's communication skills and confidence, breaks down intergenerational barriers and reduces social isolation.

Young Voices

In February 2025 we will be taking 40 children from KS2 to perform at the Young Voices concert in Birmingham. This will be our second time attending the concert as we first took part in 2023. Parents are required to pay for the cost of the coach and for any merchandise such as T-Shirts. There is also an additional cost for tickets should they wish to come and watch as part of the audience. Support is provided for those in receipt of Pupil Premium funding.

In the future

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

During subsequent academic years, we plan to:

- Increase timetabled music up to at least one hour a week for Key Stages 1 and 2.
- Explore the new EYFS framework and increase the use of a range of musical instrument provision within our in EYFS classrooms.
- Set up YUMU access for pupils to access Charanga resources from home.
- Increase the use of digital music making resources within lessons.
- Engage a range of year groups in a termly school performance.

Further information (optional)

--