

Music development plan summary: Overbury Church of England First 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	Thomas Hawkins
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Severn Arts
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.

Time Allocation & Framework: Music is an essential part of our foundation curriculum at Overbury CE First School. We ensure timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week. This dedicated classroom time is richly supplemented by weekly singing assemblies and termly seasonal performances and services, including Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas Carols, Easter, and our traditional Maypole celebrations.

Bespoke Charanga Curriculum: Every year group follows a bespoke Overbury framework adapted from the Charanga Music Scheme. This ensures a consistent, structured progression of musical skills, vocabulary, and compositional techniques year on year. All of this provision is firmly underpinned by the Model Music Curriculum.

Instrumental Learning: We place a strong emphasis on whole-class ensemble teaching to ensure every child has hands-on musical experience. Pupils develop their instrumental skills progressively, beginning with the Ukulele from Year 1 through to

Year 3. As they mature, this transitions into learning Cornets in Years 4 and 5, giving them dedicated time to practice and perform as a cohesive group.

Diverse Listening Lists: To introduce children to a broad diet of music, all classes engage with curated listening lists throughout the term. Featuring everything from Romantic-era composers to modern K-Pop groups, this continuous exposure ensures every child has the opportunity to evaluate diverse genres, develop critical listening skills, and discover a style of music that speaks to them personally.

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.

Instrumental Tuition: Through our established partnership with Severn Arts, we offer pupils specialized music tuition outside of standard lesson time. To further broaden these opportunities, we also host a dedicated peripatetic teacher who provides targeted one-to-one or small-group guitar and piano tuition.

Heritage & Community: As a C of E school with a rich musical heritage, community music-making is a vital part of our identity. We celebrate this legacy actively through community-facing events, such as carolling around the village at Christmas and our highly anticipated annual Maypole celebrations.

Ensembles & Performance: Throughout the year, all year groups have the chance to perform in a range of venues, including our local church, the school hall, and out in the wider village community. These varied performances involve singing in small groups or as part of larger ensembles. Additionally, our dedicated recorder club routinely performs in front of peers during assemblies and Maypole events. Pupils receiving individual instrumental tuition are also encouraged to showcase their progress to their peers at least once a year. We have recently been able to offer Kit Drum lessons which have been eagerly taken up by many of our children.

Singing in Worship: Singing is an integral element of daily collective worship. Songs are taught actively during whole-school singing assemblies, allowing all pupils to sing together while helping younger children memorise lyrics and melodies through actions and repetition.

Exposure to World Instruments: To inspire curiosity and expand cultural horizons, children are exposed to live demonstrations of a wide variety of instruments during music assemblies. By experiencing the sounds of the guitar, violin, didgeridoo, djembe, bodhran, and tin whistle firsthand, pupils are encouraged to explore the wider musical world and appreciate diverse global cultures.

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.

Seasonal Services & Worship: As a C of E school, our academic calendar is anchored by rich musical traditions. All year groups participate in termly services, including Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas Carols, and Easter. These take place in our local church and school hall, allowing children to perform confidently for parents, carers, and the wider school community.

Traditional Community Events: We actively celebrate our local heritage through highly anticipated annual events. Our traditional Maypole celebrations offer a unique opportunity for pupils to engage in historical dance and music-making, supported by live performances from our recorder club. Additionally, our winter village carolling brings live music directly into the heart of our local community, giving pupils real-world performance experience.

In-House Cultural Experiences: We ensure pupils experience live music regularly through immersive, in-school demonstrations. Our music assemblies feature live showcases of diverse global instruments—such as the didgeridoo, djembe, bodhran, and tin whistle. This acts as a regular live music experience, sparking curiosity and broadening cultural horizons without the need to leave the school grounds.

Audience Engagement: Whether participating in our seasonal productions or watching peers showcase their instrumental progress during assemblies, all pupils gain valuable experience as respectful, engaged audience members. This helps children appreciate the efforts of both their classmates and visiting musicians.

In the future

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

- **Tewkesbury Abbey Partnership:** We are actively planning to forge a closer working relationship with the Tewkesbury Abbey Junior Voice choir. This collaboration will provide our keenest singers with aspirational vocal opportunities, joint workshops, and a deeper understanding of choral excellence within a prestigious local setting.
- **Live Concert Excursions:** To ensure our pupils have the opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year, we are organising a dedicated school trip to professional music concerts. Experiencing a full-scale live performance in a

professional venue will significantly enrich our pupils' cultural capital and inspire their personal musical journeys.