

Riverdale Primary School

Music Development Plan Summary



Overview

Academic year that the summary covers	2025-2026
Date the summary was published	10.11.25
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
School music lead	Miss Roberts
School leadership team member with responsibility	Mrs Reilly
Name of local music hub	Tees Valley Music Service
Name of other music education organisations	CPN Specialist Music Teaching

Part A: Music Curriculum

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 Riverdale, all pupils benefit from an extensive music curriculum rooted in the Charanga Music Curriculum from Tees Valley Music Service, our local music hub.

The curriculum broadly offers opportunities for all year groups from FS1 to Year 6 to engage in composing, listening, performing and appraising music.

Throughout the academic year, each child receives approximately an hour of music per fortnight, with additional opportunities built into provision and increased time allocations during specific projects. For example, Year 2 pupils participate in the IAT Choir Festival in the Autumn Term, allowing them to explore music-making, singing and performing.

Lessons are structured into a 40-minute music session, and provision activities can be supported by Purple Mash, providing a cross-curricular link with Computing.

Our inclusive music curriculum ensures that children with SEND and other disabilities can access differentiated teaching opportunities, allowing all children to develop musical skills while enjoying the process.

We believe that every pupil should have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. Consequently, all Year 3 and Year 4 pupils learn to play a musical instrument (such as the recorder or ukulele) and are taught to read music alongside by a music specialist. This provides an additional opportunity to perform for parents and carers.

Similarly, all children from Year 1 to Year 6 are offered ukulele and guitar lessons by a professional from Create Music. These lessons take place in school and feature an end of season showcase in front of their peers and parents and carers.

In response to a pupil questionnaire conducted in Summer 2025, Riverdale are proud to hold fortnightly singing assemblies in the hall for Year 1 to Year 6. These assemblies focus on collective worship, promoting friendships and positive attitudes, as well celebrations for other annual events beside Christmas and Easter.

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.

In addition to the opportunities provided in classroom music lessons, we offer all pupils the chance to join our school Singing Club in the autumn term. Singing Club join our Year 2 class to participate in the IAT Choir Festival each year, and endeavour to sing for our community at a local care home.

Pupils also have the opportunity to take music lessons in guitar and ukulele through our partnership with Create Music.

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.

Performances in the coming academic year include:

- IAT Choir Festival in the autumn term – Year 2 and Singing Club
- Harvest Festival Assembly with Reverend Jane – Whole School
- Christmas Performances – KS1 and KS2
- Christmas Nativities – EYFS
- Christingle Service with Reverend Jane – Whole School
- Carol Singing – Singing Club
- Pantomime or Christmas Show – Whole School
- Snappy Easter Music – Year 1
- Recorder Showcase – Year 3
- Ukulele Showcase – Year 4
- Spring Concerts – KS1, Year 3 and Year 4
- Guitar and Ukulele Showcase – Selected Children
- Egyptian Assembly – Year 5
- Leavers Show – Year 6
- Theatre Opportunities at Billingham Forum – Selected Classes

In the Future

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

- Introduce pupils to their personal Charanga logins to allow access to the composition units.
- Incorporate additional music instruments into our music lessons.
- Evaluate progression in music education and implement measures for assessing progress, potentially incorporating various musical assessments.
- Develop staff CPD opportunities across the trust.
- Explore fundraising opportunities to allow for additional outside professionals to lead a musical opportunity.