

Music development plan summary: Sissinghurst Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mrs S Pain
Name of local music hub	Kent Music

This is a summary of how Sissinghurst Primary VA School delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, music tuition, choirs, ensembles 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 Sissinghurst, our music curriculum aspires for every child to have access to high quality, practical and engaging musical experiences. We want all children to develop a lifelong love of music, whilst also providing a secure foundation that enables them to take music further if they wish to. We aim to provide a wide range of different musical genres, cultures and traditions throughout music lessons, whole school worship and other opportunities during the school day. We want our teachers to enjoy teaching music and to feel empowered and armed with good subject knowledge. We use the 'Sing Up Music Scheme' written by music specialists to deliver lessons from Reception to Year 6 as this follows the model music curriculum and provides high quality, engaging lessons with strong support for non-music specialist teachers. Lessons and units are adapted as needed based on prior knowledge and SEND needs and are fully inclusive. Full information on inclusion at Sissinghurst Primary can be found here:

<https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Inclusion&pid=67>

<https://www.sissinghurst.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Music&pid=62>

We provide a year of whole class trumpet tuition to children in Year in 3 through Andrew Parry Music and Kent Music Hub. We chose trumpets because the nearby

town of Cranbrook has a town band which also has a training band that runs in nearby Hawkhurst offering further opportunity for children to potentially take their music tuition and interest further. Our well qualified trumpet teacher is involved in the town band and the training band.

Part B: 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.

Alongside our music curriculum, we aim to provide a wide range of opportunities for children to learn an instrument and participate in a range of musical activities and experiences. We have one to one piano, guitar and trumpet lessons that take place in school throughout the week and children are given regular opportunities to showcase their learning and celebrate their success in assemblies. As children progress, they have opportunities to work towards examinations within one to one lessons.

We also provide the opportunity for children who have completed a year of whole class trumpet tuition to continue in a small group in following years including free further hire of trumpets when resources allow. We have funded lessons for pupil premium children.

Outside of lesson time, all children have the opportunity to join different musical ensembles in school. We have a school choir open to Y2 - 6 that runs at different points throughout the year. Children in choir have the opportunity to perform at local events in the area and in partnership with local choirs. We have a Sissinghurst Band for children in Y3-6 of any ability to come and play music together and at different points in the year, other clubs such as recorders or ocarinas may be run by staff for blocks of a term. At play times, music listening and appreciation is encouraged and we play a variety of music in the playground.

Pupils at Sissinghurst are signposted to Staplehurst Music Centre which provides further ensemble opportunities for children from Reception to Year 6. These run on Saturdays. Our school band is run collaboratively by a member of staff from Staplehurst Music Centre and the school music lead.

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.

We aim to develop strong community links through music. Every week, children sing together in worship. Parents are welcome to attend our Friday assemblies which often

include short performances from pupils learning instruments. We hold services in Trinity Church at Harvest, Christmas, Easter and at the end of the school year. These involve singing together and often performances from individual classes or the choir and ensembles. At Christmas, the school choir will perform to elderly residents at the Church Assembly Rooms. The school have recently been more involved in musical events in Tunbridge Wells, performing at the Tunbridge Wells Singing Festival which happens every two years and participating in an orchestra workshop with pupils from other schools including secondary pupils at Skinners Grammar School. We aim to participate in these events with pupils who are interested again this year.

In KS1, all pupils participate in our musical Nativity which is performed to the whole school and to parents. At the end of KS2, children in Y6 perform a musical play to the whole school and parents. Throughout the year, each class presents an assembly and this may include musical performances from their curriculum lessons or whole class singing. At the end of the year, we also hold a performance from Year 3 to show case and celebrate their learning on trumpets.

This year, pupils in Year 4 will be embarking on a new composition project run by English National Opera.

We have good links to Benenden Girls School and Cranbrook Grammar and have been able to take pupils to see exceptional performances of musicals by pupils at the school. We strive to take up these opportunities for our pupils when they arise throughout the year. We also take opportunities to invite musicians to perform to the school, such as the Kent Music "Bach to the Future" and Cranbrook Town Band. We hope to arrange further visits this academic year.

In the future

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

In coming years, we would like to develop collaborative opportunities with other local primary schools which may enable us to ensure costs are more reasonable for travelling to events such as "Young Voices".

We have identified that composition is an area we wish our children to build confidence in and aim to look at ways to improve this in curriculum lessons.

We will look at how we may be able to provide workshops from specialists.

We will continue to review teaching and learning in music through pupil voice and outcomes.