

# Music development plan summary: *Alexandra Park Junior School*

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	February 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	February 2026
Name of the school music lead	Philippa Wainwright
Name of local music hub	Greater Manchester Music Hub (Oldham Music Service)

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

At Alexandra Park, we aim to encourage children to develop an appreciation for music through active involvement and responses to music in a variety of ways, including singing, instrumental performance, movement, composition, and class discussion.

Each year group is taught three music units per year, each lasting one half-term. Lessons are one hour and are delivered by a specialist music teacher. The musical learning is sequenced, enabling children to build upon and develop their musical skills and knowledge progressively from Year 3 through to Year 6. Children engage in singing, listening to, composing, performing, and evaluating music from a wide range of genres, historical periods, styles, and traditions.

In year 5, pupils learn to play the ukulele as a whole class ensemble. Children in all years have access to a wide range of percussion instruments, glockenspiels and pianos. Lessons are adapted to challenge all abilities, including those with SEND.

Performance and composing activities will have multiple outcomes for children to work towards. Instrumental work will be arranged for different skill levels. Listening and appraising will use various levels of questioning. Children will have opportunities to work individually, in pairs, and in small groups of mixed or similar ability.

## Part B: Extra Curricular music

At Alexandra Park Junior School, children have the opportunity to join music clubs that run throughout the school year (changing termly) including the school choir, ukulele, drumming and piano club. The clubs are free and run either during lunch time or after school. The school has a dedicated music room where all rehearsals take place.

## Part C: Musical Performances

In addition to the planned curriculum time for music, our school offers a wide range of opportunities for children to engage in musical performances. These activities involve the whole school, individual year groups, or smaller extra-curricular groups.

- **Whole-school singing** features in some of our assemblies, particularly during celebration and seasonal events such as Christmas.
- **Year group productions:** Pupils in year 3 perform a Christmas production. Pupils in year 6 produce a leavers production.
- **Instrumental and ensemble performances:** The extra-curricular music groups perform termly to parents as part of a music and dance showcase.
- **Visitors to school:** Special events such as the drumming workshop day in year 6 bring professional musicians into school for unique experiences.
- **Live musical theatre:** The whole school has the opportunity to experience live musical theatre through annual pantomime performances.
- **Community based performances:** The school choir regularly performs at local care homes. They also sing in assemblies and occasionally perform in the school playground at home time.

## In the future

In subsequent years, our music development plan aims to achieve the following objectives:

- Introduce **weekly singing assemblies** for year groups that do not have music lessons during a given half term. These assemblies will last 30 minutes, focusing on revisiting previous learning and reinforcing key skills in singing.
- Organise **singing celebrations once a term**, linked to year group topics, to create engaging opportunities for children to showcase their musical learning.
- **Musician of the Month Initiative:** Highlight a "Musician of the Month" in weekly assemblies and music lessons to broaden children's musical appreciation and encourage discussions about the music they encounter.
- **Continuously review and refine the music curriculum** to ensure that key skills are taught progressively across Years 3 to 6. To ensure that all pupils have access to a wide range of musical instruments and that the curriculum remains diverse in its selection of pieces and genres studied.

- **Enhancing Oracy Skills in Music** by further developing children's ability to articulate their thoughts about music by encouraging the use of precise musical vocabulary. This will include giving constructive feedback on performances and compositions.
- Encourage **more musical performances**. eg- more playground performances at the end of the school day, including from the choir, small ensembles, or whole classes. Alternatively, videos of class performances could be shared on the Class Dojo school story platform.