Music Development Plan – Summary

Pytchley CofE Primary School

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 to 2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Tessa Litchfield
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	NMPAT
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	ISM Music Academy

The Music Curriculum - Core
At Pytchley CofE Primary School, music is taught weekly by all class teachers from Year 1 to Year 6. Each class has a one-hour lesson per week with children working as a whole class or in small groups. In Reception, music is taught weekly for 30 minutes. The planning is based on the KAPOW music scheme. Children can explore sounds they can make with their bodies; music related to celebrations and learn about different groups of musical instruments. Alongside taught lessons, children also have access to music through continuous provision in the classroom and the regular opportunities to learn/ enjoy songs and rhymes. Planning is based on KAPOW, ensuring our planned curriculum matches the scope and ambition of the Model Music Curriculum: 2021. The intention of the Kapow Primary music scheme is first and foremost to help children to feel that they are musical, and to develop a life-long love of music. We focus on developing the skills, knowledge and understanding that children need to become confident performers, composers, and listeners. Our curriculum introduces children to music from all around the world and across generations, teaching children to respect and appreciate the music of all traditions and communities. Children will develop the musical skills of singing, playing tuned and untuned instruments, improvising and composing music, and listening and responding to music. They will develop an understanding of the history and cultural context of the music that they listen to and learn how music can be written down. Through music, our curriculum helps children develop transferable skills such as team-working, leadership, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, and presentation and performance skills. These skills are vital to children's development as learners and have a wider application in their general lives outside and beyond school. Content is adapted and scaffolded so that it meets the needs of our school and to ensure that all children can access the curriculum. This includes adapting resources, using technology and putting support in place where necessary.

Our music lessons are taught using the same quality first teaching principles that we use across all other curriculum areas, based on the Rosenshine Principles. Within music, planning also identifies:

- *Musical elements to be addressed*
- *Key vocabulary/ knowledge*
- *Background information and teaching tips*
- *Assessment opportunities.*
- *Famous musicians & composers*
- *Progression of skills*

The whole programme of musical education focuses on practical music making for all, through singing, performing and associated listening, appraising and compositional tasks. To ensure a broad, high quality and progressive listening diet there is a listening programme for KS2 and KS1 materials which have been selected from a wide range of high-quality music encompassing many cultures and historical periods.

First Access

Pytchley CofE Primary School has a close relationship with NMPAT which underpins our First Access offer, ensuring that all our children can play a musical instrument as they move through the school. We want our children to know the enjoyment, self-achievement, interest and understanding of playing an instrument. Both class teachers and NMPAT support the children with learning instruments

- **Year 1 and 2** children are taught to play the ocarina
- **Year 3 and Year 4** children are taught to play a musical instrument during each academic year.

These experiences provide opportunities for children to understand notation; engage and play a range of instruments which they may wish to pursue on an individual basis. The children also use these instruments for performances and in weekly class music lessons when appropriate.

Pytchley CofE Primary School is a member of the national Music Mark association in recognition of a commitment to providing high quality music education.

Pytchley CofE Primary School recognises that Music can play an especially important role in the development and well-being of children with SEND and of those who are disadvantaged. We therefore:

- Encourage all children with Special Educational Needs to express themselves through music.
- Ensure that any interventions are not timetabled in a way that prevents SEND pupils accessing the music curriculum.
- Adapt instruments, where needed, to allow all to participate fully in musical tasks and/or focus on those instruments that are easier to manipulate.
- Work with specialists to meet the needs of children with hearing impairments.
- Adapt other resources according to need, e.g. large print for lyrics and xylophone labels for children with visual impairments.
- Provide ear defenders if needed.
- Offer funded opportunities for children to learn and play an instrument.
- Provide all children with opportunities to perform.

The Music Curriculum – Additional Opportunities

Instrument Lessons

Peripatetic music teachers (ISM/Music Makers) offer lessons in:

- Singing
- Keyboard
- Guitar (electric and acoustic),
- Drums

These lessons are held within school hours and monitored by the Music Curriculum Leader. The lessons are funded by parents / guardians with the pupil premium funding being used to enable disadvantaged pupils to access them if they choose. Instruments are available on loan from the music service, and from other schools within the trust, for any child wanting to participate in these lessons. An annual report is written by the peripatetic teachers and parents can request a meeting to discuss their child's progress.

Details on applying for these lessons are sent out to parents/guardians on a regular basis and further information on how the pupil premium can be used, can be found on our school website. At the end of a series of lessons, children can perform to the whole school and parents/carers.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Children have opportunities to take part in free extracurricular activities at lunchtime or paid after school.

The school has a positive working relationship with NMPAT and ISAM Academy and actively encourages children to join one of the local Music and Arts Centres or holiday clubs for example.

Musical Experiences

Children at Pytchley CofE Primary School have many varied opportunities to perform, experience and engage in musical experiences as they move through the school. These include:

- PDET Year 4 The Big Sing – Northampton Derngate
- School productions – KS2 – Christmas production, FS/KS1 - Christmas Nativity
- Whole school/class worship
- May Day – dancing to traditional music
- Visits to local care home to sing for the community
- Performances from NMPAT musicians and the opportunity to perform musical instruments learned with NMPAT/class teacher
- Participation in seasonal church services

Future Plans

During the 2026/27 academic year, Pytchley CofE Primary School, is intending to extend and deepen its offer in music by:

- Accessing CPD for all staff from Kapow
- Increase the musical opportunities on offer for all children
- Ensure Music lead continues to access CPD to ensure they can monitor and impact on the music curriculum in the school successfully

Within the next three years we aim to:

- Give children more opportunities to experience music – theatre visits/visitors/ Young Voices
- Increase the musical experiences available to children within the school

Additional information can be found on the Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust (NMPAT) website Home - NMPAT.