

Music development plan summary: Leasowes Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	Oct 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Keen
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Entrust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	NA

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-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.

From Reception to Y6, pupils at Leasowes Primary School receive at least an hour per week of active timetabled music education. Music is a foundation subject in the National Curriculum and the music curriculum at Leasowes is compliant with and exceeds the expectations set out in the 2014 Primary National Curriculum in England requirements for KS1, KS2 and the Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum.

Music teaching at Leasowes delivers the requirements of the National Curriculum through half termly units supported by the Charanga scheme of work, ensuring consistency, progression and coherence throughout the school but also incorporating other high-quality music schemes and resources from Sing Up and BBC Ten Pieces in order to make our curriculum more ambitious. We believe it is important that all children learn to play a musical instrument and this forms a key part of the design of our music curriculum at Leasowes. All pupils learn to play a range of instruments with

their teachers using our class sets of glockenspiels, recorders and ukuleles. Pupils also learn to play a string instrument in Y4 and a brass instrument in Y5 with tuition from our Entrust partnership music teachers for half of the school year.

An emphasis is placed on musical vocabulary, allowing pupils to talk about pieces of music using the interrelated dimensions of music: Pulse, Rhythm, Pitch, Dynamics, Tempo, Timbre, Structure, Texture and Notation.

Our music curriculum intends to inspire creativity, self-expression and encourages our pupils on their musical journeys as well as giving them opportunities to connect with others through music. We drive to foster a lifelong love of music by exposing them to diverse musical experiences and igniting a passion for music. By listening and responding to different musical styles and composers, finding their voices as singers, and using a variety of instruments as composers, pupils will become confident, reflective musicians.

The 'Model Music Curriculum' informs the choice of music that pupils listen to and appraise across a range of genres and styles: pupils are introduced to a variety of composers and musical styles fortnightly during 'Life Beyond Leasowes Assemblies' and also in whole school assemblies. Pupils learn facts about the composer as well as listening to a piece of their work and appraising it using the interrelated dimensions of music. The Model Music Curriculum also informs some of our approaches to improvising and composing.

Part B: Extra-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.

Music and Melody assemblies take place fortnightly, one for KS1/EYFS pupils and one for KS2 pupils, in order to develop the quality of singing across the school. This also forms part of ongoing CPD for staff so they can develop their understanding of how we can help children to sing more musically and melodically.

School choir is run as an extra-curricular activity for pupils from Y5 and Y6, with an invitation later in the year to Y4, and involves weekly rehearsals after school, working towards a performance each term. Through this opportunity, pupils develop their skills in singing as an ensemble with opportunities for solo or duet parts too. They learn to sing in parts and to use simple harmony in more complex songs.

Ensemble opportunities are offered through clubs and currently we have a weekly lunchtime Recorder Club for Y3 children. Other ensembles in the last 12 months have included a Handbell Club and a Guitar Club for LKS2.

Part C: Musical experiences and performances

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.

Performance plays a significant part in our musical culture at Leasowes. Pupils from EYFS right through to Y6 participate in Harvest Festivals, Christmas productions and Christmas carol concerts. Y6 also perform an end of year show involving music and song, for an audience of parents and other classes in the school.

The choir work towards various performance experiences: in school through performance at the Christmas and summer fayres; in the local community alongside other schools; and regionally at Young Voices, labelled as the largest children's choir in the world, where they perform alongside well-known artists, work with a renowned conductor and perform to an arena-sized audience in the evening. The choir also perform for the rest of the school through assemblies.

Musicians from Entrust also come into school to perform live music for pupils from Y2-Y6. We have a growing number of pupils who learn the piano outside of school and they are provided with the opportunity to perform pieces as classes enter and leave the hall for whole school assemblies. This is also open to pupils who play other instruments.

Our violin and brass whole class lessons in Y4 and Y5, led by music teachers from entrust, culminate in a concert to a live audience each year. Pupils who learn the recorder and ukulele in whole class lessons have opportunities to perform for other year groups too.

All these performance opportunities show the relevance of the curriculum in everyday life and build a musical cultural capital for our pupils.

In the future

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

This academic year, we are developing and refining our use of assessment in Music so that children can be further supported to improve the quality of sound they create on different instruments including the voice. Staff will also have further training on improvisation and composition in order to encourage greater creativity and expression in Music. Our ensemble groups will continue to develop, with the possibility of a KS1 Music club later in the year. As a school we will be applying for an Excellence in Music Provision Award as we feel that Leasowes offers a rich and varied curriculum in Music and we are proud of musical opportunities and experiences on offer to our pupils.