

Music development plan summary: Merley First School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Rebecca Baldwin
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	BCP Sound Storm
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady

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

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.

Curriculum intent statement:

- At Merley, music develops our pupils imagination and creativity, we provide opportunities for them to learn through music as well as about it. Pupils develop their understanding of the musical elements and learn how music is structured by listening to music from different cultures and eras. They learn to use the technical vocabulary for these elements and as their confidence builds they enjoy the performance and compositional aspects of music.
- There is a whole school curriculum in place which clearly maps progress and skills across the key stages. Additional aspects are embedded into the planning such as whole class instrumental music, school performances and special musical events
- There are regular timetabled curriculum music lessons in all years plus other provision which totals 1 hour per week for all children (can include singing

assemblies etc)

- Our class teachers, in lessons, meet the needs of children with additional needs and/or disabilities, and these bespoke adaptations ensure that music can be enjoyed by all.
- The Model Music Curriculum inspired our curriculum, which is informed by the non-statutory National Curriculum Guidance.
- Children have the opportunity to sing within lessons and in assemblies. Children have the opportunity to learn, play and hone their skills with the glockenspiel as part of weekly music lessons, but we also have access to class sets of recorders and ukuleles.
- Class teachers record progress using video/audio recordings or written notes to assess
- Children have the opportunity to play a musical instrument in the EYFS outdoor area, in Forest School sessions and in lessons.
- Children are exposed to professional musical performances through our link with Soundstorm and Rocksteady.

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.

- Children have opportunities to work with experts from BCP Soundstorm.
- All pupils have the opportunity to listen to professional musicians, again through links with BCP Soundstorm.
- We would like the opportunity to see musical performances by our Trust Upper and Middle Schools.

Part C: Musical 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.

- Children sing together all or most weeks as part of a celebration assembly and half termly in singing assembly.
- There are opportunities during the year for the children to perform to others. All performances put on by the school are free for parents.
- The pupils in Year 4 perform to a community group.
- We perform at community events such as Midday Music Box in Wimborne Minster and at the Lantern Church to Mixed Blessing group.
- All children have opportunity to experience live music over the course of the school year from a visiting music group.
- Pupils who attend Rocksteady music group have opportunities to perform to the school.

In the future

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

- Timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 2 This will continue.
- Access to lessons across a range of instruments will continue.
- Links with Middle School's to show where the children can aspire to be in their musical learning journey.
- We also want to train and upskill teaching staff in their ability and confidence to teach musical instruments in KS2.
- Implement and roll out opportunities for pupils to be part of Rocksteady.