



Charnwood Music Development Plan Summary

Charnwood Primary Academy

Overview

Information	Detail
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	Claire Chapman
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Jon Williams
Name of local music hub	Staffordshire Entrust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

Our current music curriculum is aligned with the National Curriculum for Music and the non-statutory Model Music Curriculum (MMC) Guidance published by the Department for Education in 2021.

In EYFS, Year 1, 2, 3 and 6, music is taught using Charanga as a teaching tool, with some amendments to meet the needs of our pupils. It provides clearly-sequenced units and lessons with week-by-week support for each year group. Music is delivered using lesson plans and resources to support every lesson. Y4 and Y5 have weekly music lessons provided by Entrust Peripatetic Service. Y4 are learning the violin and Y5 are learning the clarinet. Alongside learning the instrument, children are also learning all other components of the music curriculum.

Key Learning and Outcomes with 'I Can' statements are used to assess musical attainment and this is recorded in a tracking system (Insight Tracking) under the headings of:

- Singing
- Listen and Appraise
- Reading Notation
- Instrumental Performance
- Composing

Our scheme follows a spiral approach to musical learning, with children revisiting, building and extending their knowledge and skills incrementally. In this manner, their learning is consolidated and augmented, increasing musical confidence and enabling them to go further. Teachers can adapt their teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of the children they teach.



Equal Opportunities

At Charnwood, all children have an equal opportunity to learn an instrument. Support is provided to those who struggle financially – instruments and lessons are provided at lower cost or sometimes free.

At our school, we teach music to all children, whatever their ability. Music forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our music teaching, we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make progress. We do this by setting suitable learning challenges and responding to each child's different needs.

Assessment against the National Curriculum allows us to consider each child's attainment and progress against expected levels. At Charnwood, we use multi-sensory teaching and learning strategies which promote effective support to our pupils with specific learning difficulties, including those who display dyslexic tendencies.

Our assessment process looks at a range of factors – classroom organisation, teaching materials, teaching style and differentiation – so that we can take some additional or different action to enable the child to learn more effectively.

Where children are to participate in activities outside the classroom, for example, a musical festival at another school, we carry out a risk assessment prior to the activity, to ensure that the activity is safe and appropriate for all pupils.

Time Allocation

Music teaching comprises of 1 hour per week in both KS1 and KS2. All lessons include some element of singing to ensure that there is an opportunity for repeated practice.

Singing

At Charnwood Primary Academy, we sing for enjoyment, to develop our singing ability and to reflect on our whole school values. We sing in class, in assemblies and at special events and performances. We love to sing and have opportunities to sing in performances outside school.

For example, Year R–4 will perform at St. Chad's Church for our annual harvest festival and we regularly provide opportunities for children to encompass drama and singing in our Christmas and Year 6 Leavers' productions.

We also have extensive links with Lichfield Cathedral School and our children have had many opportunities to sing at events organised by MusicShare. This autumn, our Year 3 class will sing and participate in the Poetry By Heart event and Year 5 will participate in a similar event in the summer term.

Learning to Play a Musical Instrument

Every child at Charnwood has the chance to learn to play a musical instrument. This leads to enjoyment and a sense of achievement, provides numerous opportunities and develops valuable attributes including perseverance, resilience, concentration and self-confidence.

All children have the experience of playing tuned and untuned percussion instruments within our progressive scheme of learning.

During KS2, all our children spend at least one year learning to play the violin in Year 4 and clarinet in Year 5 as part of the Entrust Music Services Whole Class Ensemble Teaching programme, developing valuable skills as a good starting point in these fantastic instruments and the knowledge that they can succeed in Music.



Part B: Cross-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.

This academic year, we have added in 'Rock Steady' whereby children are learning to play in a rock band: lead and bass guitar, keyboards, drums and singing.

From Key Stage 2, children can also choose to continue or begin to learn to play a musical instrument with a visiting peripatetic teacher. Lessons take place during the school day.

Lessons available are: violin, flute, clarinet, piano and guitar. Some instruments are available for loan from the music service free of charge. We also offer financial support for pupils in receipt of pupil premium and there is funding via the Furthering Talent programme.

Children are encouraged to get involved with further ensemble playing in bands or orchestras at King Edward's Secondary School. Children are also encouraged to join in with lunchtime and after-school clubs run by school staff members at no cost.

In the past year, we have hosted a recorder club, choirs and a music theatre club. There are plans to replicate these clubs this academic year.

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.

A Musical Year at Charnwood Primary Academy

- Harvest Festival (October)
- EYFS and Y1/2 Christmas Nativities (December)
- Christmas Performances (Year 3/4 and Y5/6) (December)
- Carol Singing with Rocklands School for Individual Needs (December)
- WCET end-of-year community / parent performances at the Coton Centre, Tamworth (June)
- Performances from clubs in whole-school assemblies throughout the year
- Annual performance from Entrust Musicians (July)
- Annual Summer PTFA Events Performance (June/July)

In the Future

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

Music Curriculum

The music leader is constantly reviewing the music curriculum and ensures that the content is kept up to date and relevant. This means that there is much flexibility within the planning to change and adapt it as necessary, meeting current thinking in the subject.

The curriculum leader is working to ensure that all music lessons provide plenty of opportunities for practical application of skills, active music making, active listening and give all involved a sense of accomplishment where they feel they have created something at the end.

The vision of the leader is to improve children's understanding of musical vocabulary and terminology and the opportunities for singing.



The music leader will organise more opportunities to showcase musicians from within our school and externally.

Wider Opportunities

The music leader will organise a coachload of pupils to take part in the Young Voices celebration in Birmingham next year.