

# Music Development Plan summary: Newark Orchard School

## Overview

| Detail   | Information    |
|--|----------------|
| Academic year that this summary covers   | 2025/2026      |
| Date this summary was published  |                |
| Date this summary will be reviewed   |                |
| Name of the school music lead  | Tracey Everatt |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) |                |
| Name of local music hub  | Inspire Music  |
| 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.

At Newark Orchard School, we recognise and support that Music is vital for our students and is an important part of the curriculum, being a universal language that all can access.

At present, our Informal and Pre-Formal classes access music across their curriculum, using songs to help support learning across a range of subjects and routines, as well as regularly making time to sing. These songs are carefully chosen by staff to meet the learning needs of the children and singing sessions are also used to support pupils to develop their communication skills. They also access a music session per week in their timetable that is carefully planned to support the sensory and holistic needs of our pupils.

In our Semi Formal and Formal classes, students access music at least once a week for an hour in class, taught by class teachers. We alternate termly between our own

curriculum and the CIT Creative Arts curriculum, both of which have been created taking inspiration from the Early Years Foundation Stage, National Curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum, to suit the needs of our students.

Music is taught in a 3-year cycle to ensure that students gain exposure to all parts of the curriculum, and taught in half term blocks under the focuses of:

- ❖ Singing and performance
- ❖ Listening
- ❖ Composition and performance
- ❖ Musicianship – This covers the understanding of the interrelated dimensions of music.

Following the 3-year cycle allows us to continuously revisit concepts across a half term to help embed them with our students. Curriculum content is carefully planned to ensure our children are exposed to a rich variety of music which they may not normally access, covering different genres, styles and cultures. We have also made links with Inspire music hub, who have provided support to our school with workshops for pupils and curriculum support for staff. This year, we have been fortunate to take part in the Uprising Musical Cultures programme, where Inspire have supported staff across the school to develop their confidence in music teaching, as well as supporting with advice for a curriculum specifically for SEND settings to use and adapt.

In our Post 16 provision, music is offered as part of Media in their vocational offer. These weekly afternoon sessions are carefully planned by an experienced KS4 member of staff with musical experience using BBC Teach to support and expose our students to a more practical method of music using technology as a focus point, and give them experience of how music can be a career path. Students are assessed against self-written KPIs developed from the Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 music National Curriculum.

## **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.

At Newark Orchard School, we recognise the importance of extra-curricular music experiences for our students. We have a core offer of lunchtime clubs that are accessed by different age ranges on a rota to ensure that they are accessible to as many children as possible.

We currently offer:

❖ Choir

We also have a weekly singing assembly where children access singing songs with Makaton signing.

Previously, we have also offered Ukelele club.

The choir have taken steps to improve their own performing skills this year by taking opportunities to visit classes and perform their songs. As part of our work with the Uprising Musical Cultures programme,

In the previous year, we worked with Inspire music hub to provide a drumming workshop and with Unbeatable Energy to provide a drumming workshop with junk music performance.

## 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.

At Newark Orchard School, we are keen to develop links with the local community to help give our students exposure to the wider world. We are currently working with the Inspire music hub and with the Open Doors project to access high quality musical experiences for our students.

We have been able to provide our pupils with a live music experience through a Christmas performance by Highly Strung, a String quartet who visited us, organised by Open Doors.

We have introduced the staff playlist, which has been spoken about highly by pupils and staff. A member of staff is chosen each week to share 5 songs they like with the rest of the school to support exposing our pupils to a wider range of genres in music within the safety of our setting.

## In the future

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

Moving forward, we are looking to develop our music provision in the following ways:

- ❖ Continue working together with CIT to develop a good level of music education provision across the school that meets our pupils' needs from an educational and a personal standpoint.
- ❖ Continuing to improve staff confidence in planning, teaching and assessing music by accessing high quality CPD from Open Doors and Inspire music hub.
- ❖ Continue to expand the student's access to a wider range of musical experiences and live performance by working with local schools and members of our community.
- ❖ Continue to support pupils to see music as a potential career path by arranging visitors to speak about their careers within music.