Music development plan summary:
Withycombe Raleigh Church of England Primary 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	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Rita Tkachova / Mary Neesam
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Samantha Wheeler
Name of local music hub	Devon Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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.

The purpose of Music at Withycombe Raleigh Church of England Primary School is to nurture all of our children to become music lovers and, for some, to realise their ambitions to become music producers, songwriters, composers or rockstars!

Each pupil receives at least an hour's music education each week, comprised of an in-class music lesson of around 45 minutes – 1 hour and taught singing. Our music curriculum, which is aligned with the Model Music Curriculum, is bespoke to Withycombe Raleigh Church of England Primary School, utilising the best of elements of the Kapow scheme, Whole Class Ensemble Teaching and incorporating our school's longstanding expectation of musical and performance achievement. The curriculum offering builds progressively throughout pupils' time at school. It celebrates our school's legacy of music and is both aspirational and inspirational, using well-known musicians, composers and our pupils as the source of this inspiration. It builds year-on-

year to ensure that key skills in areas including appraisal, singing, rhythm, instrumentation and composition (including notation) are developed progressively.

Further details about our curriculum at Withycombe Raleigh Church of England Primary School can be found on our website:

Music Statement: https://www.wrpschool.org/music-3i-statement

Music Progression in Knowledge and Skills: https://www.wrpschool.org/_files/ugd/15d226_e833f640e9b941569971b9114220444e.pdf

Pupils in Year 4 receive Whole Class Ensemble Tuition by a visiting peripatetic teacher for a term – for this academic year (2026-2027), we anticipate that the instrument will be the Toot, a pre-cursor to the flute. These instruments are made available to school through the Devon Music Education Hub's instrument hire scheme.

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 Withycombe Raleigh Church of England Primary School, we are incredibly fortunate to work with a wide range of experienced and enthusiastic peripatetic music teachers. We currently have peripatetic tuition available for a huge variety of instruments: piano; violin; woodwind - flute (and Toots), clarinet (and Doods), fife and saxophone; brass - cornet, trumpet, French horn, trombone and tuba; drums; and guitar. These lessons are offered on an individual or one-to-one basis, or as part of a small group, as decided between teachers, children and their parents/carers. Lessons happen throughout the school day and generally last from 20 mins – 30 mins, depending on the age of the child and the size of the group. Cost of lessons depends on the instrument and length of the lesson – further details are available from the school office and peripatetic teachers.

Pupils who received Pupil Premium funding may ask to receive subsidised instrument tuition. This is considered on a case-by-case basis by the school's Senior Leadership Team, but it is our aim that peripatetic music tuition should not be cost-prohibitive.

All pupils are able to hire an instrument in conjunction with the Devon Music Education Hub and details of this scheme are shared with families at the point of enquiry. School also has some instruments which are available for children to use as practice instruments. Both of these instrument loan options mean that children's practice at home is facilitated year-round.

Children can choose to work with their peripatetic teachers towards a range of nationally-recognised awards, including the 'traditional' graded awards. Any music

award which is achieved by a pupil is celebrated in whole-school or Key Stage Collective Worship and is also recognised within our wider school community via our weekly Headteacher newsletter.

Children in Key Stage Two are all able to join our school choir. This is a mixed-voice vocal group which is open to all children and there is no audition or standard-driven requirement to join. This is a popular school club, which is usually well-represented from all year groups in Key Stage 2. Key Stage 2 choir is available to book through MCAS throughout the 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.

Pupils and Withycombe Raleigh Church of England Primary School have many opportunities to enjoy musical experiences, whether this be composing and performing or listening and appraising, in every year of their education.

Children in Early Years and Key Stage 1 have weekly opportunities for singing in EYFS/KS1 Collective Worship; Children in Key Stage 2 have weekly opportunities for singing in KS2 Collective Worship. Alongside this, pupils in any given year group will sing with their cohort in a singing performance as part of their year-group-led Collective Worship once per term.

During the Autumn Term, children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 all perform a separate Nativity show for other children within the school and then for their parents. By doing this, all children in EYFS and KS1 will perform to an audience and will also watch a performance by another year group. All children in KS2 will be able to watch and appraise at least one of these performances. Tickets for all performances are without cost.

During the Spring Term, Year 3 stage a musical performance (*TBC*) which is watched by EYFS and KS1, then by KS2, before holding a final performance to parents. Tickets for all performances are without cost.

This all culminates when children in Year Six will prepare, learn, rehearse and perform a musical production to the whole school community at our local theatre, Exmouth Pavilion during the Summer Term. Pupils from EYFS and KS1 are the audience for a performance at school, and Pupils from Years 3-5 are the audience for a performance at Exmouth Pavilion. The children in Year Six then perform for one final time with an audience of parents and carers of children in Year 6, along with governors and the staff body. In 2025 and 2026, we almost sold out all 500 seats at Exmouth Pavilion! Tickets for the final show, to parents/carers, have a cost of around £3 to allow us to pay for the hire of the theatre and any additional fees (production rights, licences, technician fees).

Alongside these opportunities, children who learn an instrument also have opportunities to perform to their peers and their parents throughout the year. This averages to around 2-3 performances each year (usually once per term). Performances are arranged in conjunction with peripatetic teachers who fully support these opportunities for their students.

The peripatetic music teachers also offer 'showcase' events for the pupils, whereby they perform excerpts from pieces using the instrument(s) that they teach, allowing all pupils to watch, listen and appraise to live professional music close-up throughout the year.

During the 2025-2026 academic year, we were excited to be visited by the Singing Children of Kenya Choir, early in the Autumn term. This showcased the joy and love that music and singing can bring to everyone and showed the children of Withycombe how music can positive impact everyone across the globe.

In the future

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

Across the 2026-2027 academic year, we will seek to embed our new and updated Music curriculum, which incorporates the best of the Kapow music scheme and allows us to retain the parts of the curriculum and our wider offering that makes Music at Withycombe special. We will also closely monitor the curriculum impact on pupils and staff, ensuring that delivery and learning align with our core school expectations.

In the future, we will look to develop our provision for the teaching music technology, ensuring that our technological infrastructure can effectively support the curriculum developed in this area. This will include, but not be limited to, considering possible additional funding routes to enable the purchase of technology (both hardware and software) beyond the scope of the school's budget for the curriculum. We are also exploring the progressive nature of our curriculum and reviewing our curriculum composition as the year progresses in line with our School Development Plan.

Where possible, any feasible opportunities to further promote music of all types (e.g The Mix Festival, Budleigh Music Festival, Exeter Cathedral School, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra) will be taken as offered.

In conjunction with the Devon Music Education Hub, we will aim to continue to offer Whole Class Ensemble Tuition, with a visiting peripatetic teacher, with the instruments available being varied each year. Previous years' instruments have included Toots, Doods, Fifes, Brass (a range) and Violins.

We are also seeking to develop our offering of a wider range of extra-curricular music opportunities, possibly to include a choir or singing group for our younger pupils and/or ensemble instrument group(s).

Further information

More details about the great work and opportunities that the Devon Music Education Hub help us to provide and facilitate can be found on their website.

Devon Music Education Hub: https://www.musiceducationhub.org/site/

The Department for Education publishes a guide for parents and young people on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.