

# Music development plan summary: Cullercoats Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	29.9.25
Date this summary will be reviewed	29.9.26
Name of the school music lead	Katherine Raine
Name of local music hub	North East Music Hub

## Part A: Curriculum music

**Please see Curriculum section on website for more information about music lessons in school.**

School years 1 to 6 use the Charanga music scheme, which is a spiral curriculum, giving pupils opportunities to listen to and appraise different pieces of music, sing, play, improvise and perform. Each class is timetabled to have an hour's music curriculum lesson each week.

In Year 4, children have specialist music lessons from a music teacher, as part of Wider Opportunities funding. They learn glockenspiel and ukulele as part of these lessons.

Children in Early Years also receive discreet music lessons and are given opportunities to listen to and talk about music, and play percussion instruments, as well as learning a range of songs and nursery rhymes.

We have also introduced an annual arts week in school, to give children an opportunity to really focus on the different arts disciplines. Our first arts week focused specifically on our local heritage, and last year we used the BBC Ten Pieces as a stimulus for art and music across the week. We have a rich local heritage, so our intention is to hold a heritage week every 2 years, so that children are able to learn about local music, art and history.

## Part B: Co-curricular music

### **Peripatetic lessons:**

Children in KS2 are able to take part in peripatetic music lessons during the school day. The instruments which are currently offered are:

Piano

Keyboard

Violin

Recorder

Fife/ flute

Guitar

These lessons are paid for by parents, and can take the form of one-to-one, paired or group lessons, depending on the instrument.

Children who have peripatetic music lessons are given an opportunity to perform at the annual summer music concert in school.

Children are encouraged to join the music ensembles which are available, free of charge, on a Saturday morning, as a part of North Tyneside Music. Please follow this link to find out more:

<https://northtynesidemusic.org.uk/activities-for-young-people/>

Within school, children in KS2 also have the opportunity to join the school choir in the autumn and summer terms. This is an after-school club, which is free to join; we often focus on songs that are local to Cullercoats and the North-East. The choir members are given many opportunities to perform; for example, in the past year they have performed at:

Beamish Museum

Cullercoats Heritage Festival

Victoria Court Sheltered Accommodation

North Shields Victorian Christmas Market

Whitley Bay Playhouse as a part of the North Tyneside Summer Sing

Old Low Lights, North Shields, as part of the opening of an art exhibition

Church service in Cullercoats Methodist Church in celebration of 200 years of the RNLI

All KS2 children also have the opportunity to participate in our school Easter show. The children rehearse each week after school in the spring term, and their hard work culminates in 3 evening performances in the week before the Easter holidays. The children in Y3 and Y4 make up the chorus, and the children in Y5 and Y6 perform the main roles on our school stage. The chance to participate in the show is often one of the highlights of children's time at Cullercoats Primary School.

## 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.

Children in KS1 and KS2 take part in regular singing assemblies, and all children in school have opportunities to perform to parents. This can be as part of stay and play sessions for younger children, and nativity performances, Christmas and Easter services for children in KS1 and KS2.

All KS2 children have the opportunity to participate in our school Easter show. This is an important part of our school calendar; the participants (usually around 80 children) rehearse each week after school in the spring term, and their hard work culminates in 3 evening performances in the week before the Easter holidays. The children in Y3 and Y4 make up the chorus, and the children in Y5 and Y6 perform the main roles on our school stage.

We have recently been awarded an Artsmark Silver award and part of our application for Artsmark status was focused on giving children opportunities to experience live music. Recently we have had a visiting harpist who has given performances for children across the school; and we also had the chance to listen to a concert by a local Afro-Cuban band, Castillo Nuevo. A local professional violinist has also performed for the children in Reception as part of their music lesson.

Children are also given the opportunity to take part in one-off music events. Examples are y4 children who had an incredible experience, composing music, singing and performing as part of an Opera Gala, alongside professional musicians, and children have played as part of a large Samba band at the Mouth of the Tyne Festival in Tynemouth.

## In the future

We are currently beginning our second Artsmark process; this time we intend to focus on two main areas of development:

- Collaboration with local organisations to build up links and share expertise
- Inclusion – ensuring that every pupil can experience the joy of making music, regardless of their background or ability.

As part of our whole school development plan, we are also focusing on assessment in the foundation subjects. We have introduced Seesaw across the school, and this is extremely effective for recording children's achievements in music, and enables the Music Co-ordinator to see curricular music in each year group, and check that progress is being made as children move through the school.