Music development plan summary: Highweek Primary School

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	Kerry Slade
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Claire Redwood
Name of local music hub	Devon Music Education Hub
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 Highweek, music is taught by a specialist teacher and takes place weekly across all age groups. Our music curriculum is informed by the model music curriculum (March 2021) and is designed to be varied, engaging, progressive and accessible to all. A copy of our curriculum can be found on our school website.

Weekly music lessons include regular opportunities for pupils to listen and appraise, sing, play instruments, improvise, compose and perform (individually, in groups and as a class). Whole-class ensemble teaching takes place (for at least one full term) in every year group and progressively builds children's knowledge and skills in reading staff notation and performing. Children are given the opportunity to play a range of instruments, including the glockenspiel, djembe, bamboo tamboo, recorder and ukulele.

All music lessons (apart from EYFS) take place in our dedicated music room, which is well appointed with a large screen, music displays and a wide range of instruments.

Music is also used in a cross-curricular way outside of music lessons, particularly in KS1 and EYFS, where musical activities form part of their continuous provision.

As part of our curriculum, we also have a weekly whole school focus on a 'Musician of the Month' during assembly time. Each month we listen to, learn about and appraise music from a different musician, including composers and performers from all over the world and throughout musical history.

Weekly singing assemblies take place in both KS1 and KS2. These are led by our specialist music teacher and supported by all staff. Material for these is carefully chosen to both develop children's singing skills and appeal to their interests, to ensure maximum engagement.

We also have close links with our local music hub – Devon & Torbay Music Education Hub and with local secondary schools.

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.

We offer a wide range of extra-curricular musical activities, which are constantly evolving based on the needs and interests of our pupils. Our specialist music teacher runs several free musical clubs that are open to all (children can sign-up at the start of each half-term). These currently include:

- Singing club (Tuesdays after-school)
- Music technology club (Wednesday lunchtimes)

We also have visiting music teachers who come into school weekly to provide 1:1 and small group instrumental tuition. These lessons are paid for by parents/carers directly to the visiting teachers. Funding is available from the school to support children in receipt of Pupil Premium. The instruments currently offered are:

- Piano
- Voice
- Flute
- Recorder
- Guitar
- Bass guitar
- Drum kit

We have a dedicated music room, which is used to deliver all curricular and extra-curricular music. This space is also available for children to use as a practise room, in discussion with our specialist music teacher.

We have strong links with our local music hub and can guide and support any parents/carers looking for further support with music tuition and other music making activities outside of school. We also use Pupil Premium funding to subsidise lessons for children to support them with access to instrumental lessons.

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.

We love to celebrate the musical achievements of our pupils and endeavour to provide a wide range of performance opportunities for all pupils. We have listed some of these below:

- Termly music assemblies – these currently provide performance opportunities for our musical clubs and pupils receiving 1:1 and small group instrumental tuition
- Christmas show – EYFS pupils
- Christmas production – Year 1/2 pupils
- Harvest Festival – Year 3/4 pupils
- Leavers' Production – Year 6 pupils
- Singing club – regularly perform both inside and outside school. Recent performances include a local supermarket, Exeter Cathedral and World Resorts Arena in Birmingham!

We also ensure that children are given the opportunity to experience a range of live music as an audience member. Our partnership with the Devon & Torbay Music Hub supports this provision. Here are some recent examples:

- Soul Band from Coombeshead Academy performing for us at Highweek Primary School (whole school)
- The Mix music festival (Year 5 pupils)
- Devon County Show (Singing Club)

As a school, we ensure that we are actively involved in local, regional and national musical events, such as Teachers Rock and Young Voices.

In the future

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

Throughout the next academic year, we will be working on:

- Continue to update Song and Rhyme library and deliver further CPD to staff – ensuring consistent daily singing for all children to improve children's singing skills and their general well-being and also to support early reading and language skills
- Continue to develop Playground Singing at break and lunch times – linking to targets on our School Improvement Plan
- Further develop Mini Melodies to target more local families – raising the profile of our school in the community and helping to encourage more families to bring their children to school here
- Create Cycle E of Musician of the Month – so that children continue to experience a wide range of music in whole-school assemblies
- Further develop role as a Lead School for Music in partnership with Devon Music Education Hub – raising the profile of Highweek as a Lead School for Music within Devon.
- Collaborate and Create project (Autumn term) – lead the project alongside other Lead Schools for Music, collaborating with and supporting Bearnes Voluntary Primary School

Further information

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

Our local music hub is Devon & Torbay Music Education Hub. Their website includes useful information about hiring instruments and finding a visiting music teacher. Here is some useful information about what a music education hub is and how they work.

Find out more about What's On in Teignbridge, including music centres, ensembles, peripatetic teachers and upcoming events.

We believe we have a really strong music curriculum and we are very proud of our provision. If you would like to find out more about music at Highweek, please don't hesitate to contact us via our website: www.highweekprimary.co.uk/contact-us.