

Music development plan summary: Witton-le-Wear Primary School

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Gabriella Ramage
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	NA
Name of local music hub	Durham Music Service
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.

To read more in detail about the provision music at Witton-le-Wear Primary school, please visit our curriculum page: <https://witton-le-wearprimary.org.uk/music/>

Music is taught weekly in every class for a minimum of 40 minutes, delivered either by class teachers following the Charanga curriculum scheme of work or by a specialist music teacher. This structured musical learning is enriched by weekly whole-school singing assemblies lasting up to 20 minutes, where pupils engage in collective singing and develop vocal confidence. From the earliest years in EYFS, children are immersed in music through nursery rhymes, modern songs, and interactive musical games that build foundational skills in rhythm and pitch. As pupils progress through Years 1 to 6, each class participates in a whole-class ensemble project every half term, learning to make music together or play instruments such as ukuleles. These ensemble experiences culminate in performances that celebrate collaboration and musical growth. The curriculum is designed to nurture creativity, build technical skills, and instill a life-long love and appreciation of music in all pupils.

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 Witton-le-Wear Primary school, in addition to our core curriculum, we offer a range of enriching extra-curricular music activities to further develop pupils' musical talents and interests. Small group instrumental lessons are available for guitar and woodwind, delivered by visiting teachers from Durham Music Service. These sessions are offered to pupils in Lower and Upper Key Stage 2 and are funded by parents. However, for children eligible for Pupil Premium, the cost of these lessons can be covered through Pupil Premium provision, ensuring equitable access to instrumental tuition. We also have a thriving Key Stage 2 choir that meets weekly with our music lead. The choir performs at local community events, particularly during the festive season, and participation is free of charge to ensure all pupils can experience the joy of group singing and public 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.

Witton, we provide a rich variety of musical experiences that extend beyond the classroom and into the wider community. These opportunities help children develop performance skills, confidence, and a deeper connection to music through shared celebration and creativity. Our annual musical highlights include:

- **KS2 Choir performance** at the village Christmas lights switch-on.
- **Whole school singing** at the church's Harvest Festival and VE Day commemorations
- **EYFS to Year 4 Nativity** performance at Christmas.
- **Year 5 and 6 Summer Performance** showcasing musical theatre and singing.
- **Witton's Got Talent** whole-school event celebrating creativity and musical challenge
- **EYFS Tinsel Toddle** visiting residents to sing and dance during the festive season
- **Year 5 and 6 visit to the local community centre** to sing carols at the Friendship Lunch
- **Annual in-school theatre performance** by Cordelia and Henk.
- **Annual trip to the pantomime** at Bishop Town Hall.

These experiences are designed to be inclusive, memorable, and joyful, ensuring every child has the chance to shine through music.

In the future

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

In the future years, our Music Development plan aims to achieve the following:

- Ensuring that our music scheme has consistency and progression from EYFS through to Year 6.
- Ensure the choir runs consistently throughout the year and is actively involved in supporting annual school and community events.
- Create an inclusive and inspiring environment where all pupils regardless of background, ability, or experience, feel motivated to engage with music beyond the classroom.

Further information (optional)