

Music development plan summary: White Spire School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Julia Davy-Spence
Name of local music hub	BLMK music hub

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 White Spire School we develop our own curriculum that is suited to the SEND needs of our pupils. It was written using the National Curriculum in England: music programmes of study and the Model Music Curriculum: Key Stages 1 to 2 with adapted outcomes from the Sounds of Intent Framework. Our music lessons often follow the topic themes relating them to History, Extended Writing and Drama.

At White Spire we enjoy listening to music and linking them with 'musical opposites' such as high and low; long and short; fast and slow; loud and quiet that we play in our practical lessons on chime bars, glockenspiels, keyboards, drums and percussion. Children will compose their own melodies using traditional instruments and digital, for example Swipe (by Digit Music) and <https://musiclab.chromeexperiments.com/> in lessons and Key Stage 4/5 in Golden Time.

Our pupils in reception to key stage 3 are allocated one lesson per week of Performing Arts (music/drama). Progress in Performing Arts is monitored using the White Spire progression assessment framework. This helps us to record each small step that pupils make and aids in future planning to meet the needs of individual pupils.

There are no formal music lessons in key stage 4 and 5. Pupils are offered co-curricular opportunities.

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.

The school offers a range of musical activities that are taught during the lunch time in small groups. The activities that have been selected are suited to the needs of our children. Staff who come into White Spire School have the relevant knowledge/training on how best to work with our pupils. The activities stimulate pupils' interest and improve their skills.

These activities include; a drum club has been offered across the whole school two days a week (4 clubs). There are music and movement sessions lead by Ragdolly Anna's that encourage our pupils to get moving to the rhythm of the music held twice a week at the school (4 clubs) The 2 Primary Ragdolly Annas focus on singing, dancing, and parachute games. The 2 Secondary Ragdolly Annas sessions focus on singing together and singing individually. Furthermore, pupils also play music outside for break/lunchtime daily where pupils are encouraged to sing and dance.

All musical activities at White Spire School are free of charge to pupils. The school allocates a budget to support pupils' love of music.

Many teachers include singing across the curriculum, eg singing counting songs in maths, 'Walk like an Egyptian' in English and/or History, Continent songs in geography, and class favourites as brain breaks and during golden time.

Music Lead teacher attends a termly meeting led by the Music Hub's SEND coordinator where resources, activities (such as short activities for non-verbal children) and skills are discussed.

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.

Performances -Key stage 1,2 and 3 (Year 7) will perform a musical nativity to parents.

-Key Stage 3 (years 8 and 9) performing the play/ musical to parents

Music shows/visits- Performance of Music by musicians (Arranged through BLMK Music Hub)

Shows: Theatre group visit twice times a year, all students across the age range participate in the group singing.

Visit: At Christmas all the sixth form will watch a pantomime at Milton Keynes Theatre.

Key Stage 4 will study musical theatre (in Extended Writing), and watch a show (music) at a theatre.

Christmas disco, where children can sing and dance to their favourite songs.

Summer Festival: All children across the school to attend disco, each Key Stage 3 leads a song with dance routine.

Award Assemblies: Whole school singing at beginning and end of assemblies.

In the future

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

- Looking into the possibility of a music group or choir during lunchtime.
- Investigating the possibility of lessons in an instrument for half a term in years 8 & 9