

Chipping Ongar Primary School



Music Development Plan



Chipping Ongar Primary School

'Where Learning Branches Out'

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Intent

Our school values (be respectful, be resilient, be responsible) underpin everything we do. Our teaching and learning, provides an environment which prepares all pupils to be inquisitive, creative, and enquiring learners within their learning. We aim to nurture a culture of wellbeing and self-belief by providing an aspirational and adaptive learning environment both in and outside the classroom. The aim of our provision is to encourage and foster a love for learning- a learning for life.

The intention of the music curriculum at Chipping Ongar is first and foremost to help children to feel that they are musical, and to develop a life-long love of music. In alignment with our school's visions and values, music can support children's self-belief, provide numerous opportunities, as well as bringing together the community. Through music, our curriculum helps children develop transferable skills such as teamwork, leadership, creative thinking, problem solving, decision making, and presentation and performance skills.

Aims

Chipping Ongar's music curriculum provides:

- Opportunities to develop and embed basic skills, knowledge and understanding that they need to become confident performers, composers, and listeners (see *progression of knowledge*). Knowledge and vocabulary being at the heart of pupils learning.
- Opportunities for a range of spiritual, moral, social, and cultural experiences. This includes music from all around the world and across generations, learning to respect and appreciate the music of all traditions and communities.
- A curriculum that develops musical skills of singing, playing tuned and untuned instruments, improvising and composing music, and listen and respond to music.
- A curriculum that develops an understanding of the history and cultural context of the music that they listen to and learn how music can be written down.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	12 th Sept 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	12 th Sept 2027
Name of the school music lead	Nicola Layton
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Helen Russell
Name of local music hub	N/A
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	EPSLIP Music Partnership Bridge Academy Trust

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.

Organisation

Kapow is the scheme of work teachers use for providing a high-quality music curriculum to all our pupils. Each half term has a different topic allocated and can be found in the year group overview as well as in this progression document.

Implementation

Music is taught every half term with 1- hour lessons (for all year groups) on a weekly basis using Kapow primary's music scheme. This takes a holistic approach to music, in which the individual strands below are woven together to create engaging and enriching learning experiences:

- Performing
- Listening
- Composing
- The History of Music
- The Inter-related Dimensions of Music

Each five-lesson unit combines these strands within a cross-curricular topic designed to capture pupils' imagination and encourage them to explore music enthusiastically. Over the course of the scheme, children will be taught how to sing fluently and expressively and play tuned and untuned instruments accurately and with control. They will learn to recognise and name the interrelated dimensions of music - pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, structure, texture, and dynamics - and use these expressively in their own improvisations and compositions.

There are also opportunities for all our pupils to learn instruments such as: ukuleles (Year 5 & 6), recorders (Year 3 & 4), glockenspiels (all year groups), and a range of tuned and untuned percussion as well as learning and having opportunities to sing (all year groups). The instrumental scheme lessons complement the Kapow Primary scheme of work and allow lower key stage pupils to develop their expertise in using a tuned instrument for a minimum of one term as recommended in the Model Music Curriculum. **These are taught as whole class ensemble teaching.**

The teaching of Music is well-balanced within our progressive and exciting curriculum. In each lesson, pupils will actively participate in musical activities drawn from a range of styles and traditions, developing their musical skills and their understanding of how music works. Lessons incorporate a range of teaching strategies from independent tasks, paired and group work as well as improvisation and teacher-led performances. Music lessons are 'hands-on' and incorporate movement and dance elements, as well as making cross-curricular links with other areas of learning. A real strength of following the KAPOW curriculum is that high-quality guidance is available for every lesson to ensure that lessons can be accessed by all pupils and opportunities to stretch pupils' learning are available when required. Knowledge organisers for each unit support pupils in building a foundation of factual knowledge by encouraging recall of key facts and vocabulary. We believe our staff need to be equipped and given the time to strengthen their musical subject knowledge for them to be able to deliver a highly effective and robust music curriculum. In addition to this, each unit of lessons includes multiple teacher videos to develop subject knowledge and support ongoing CPD, aiding teachers in their

own acquisition of musical skills and knowledge. Further CPD opportunities can also be found via webinars with our music subject specialists.

SEN Provision and Adapted Learning

To support children with low level, SEND needs in music we encourage flexible groupings and peer support in lessons. Children with high needs are supported to take part in whole class lessons with additional adult support.

SEND children are also encouraged to take lessons with peripatetic music teachers. They are encouraged to move with the music to express themselves through their bodies. They are encouraged to listen to music and engage in extra musical activities to aid them to relax. We use age-appropriate material and facilitate learning the lyrics or reading notation. To support children with physical or sensory needs, headphones are provided. Adult support to facilitate participation.

Specific ways where the teaching of Music is adapted to suit the needs of all learners and to promote an inclusive classroom environment are:

- Access to instruments throughout (glockenspiels, recorder and ukelele) for regular movement breaks and opportunities to be active within the lesson.
- Interventions do not run during weekly, whole school singing assemblies, so that all SEN pupils can attend.
- Teachers bespoke the context of their lessons, where appropriate, to follow the interest of specific pupils.
- The classroom environment is considered in terms of organisation of the physical space as well as utilising outside areas to lessen sensory overload.
- Music is embedded within the weekly timetable which remains the same each week. This supports pupils who need that regular routine and structure.

Part B: Extra-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.

Outside of lesson time, music tuition is provided by a specialist music teacher. These are 1:1 sessions with the occasional small group tuition where pupils are working on a group performance. All lessons take place in our dedicated music space. These pupils have further opportunities to take grades in Piano, Voice or Guitar. This tuition comes with a termly charge, which parents pay straight to the teacher. There are subsidies for those eligible for PPG.

There is a school choir who meet on a weekly basis and a small voluntary fee is charged each term so new choral music can be purchased. The choir have multiple opportunities to perform throughout the academic year. The events they have most recently performed in are as follows:

- The town's annual Christmas Lights Switch-On Event- the choir performed on the stage in the high street.
- Carols at COPS- all the parent community are invited to join in with this annual event, where the choir do their own special performance.
- Although, new and in the early stages, a new partnership has begun with local schools to promote opportunities for singing and performance. In May 2024, the first Music festival was held, where 5 local schools came together with their choirs and performed in the local theatre. This is something we aim to develop year on year to get more involved with.
- Summer Serenade- a music concert in the summer term, open to all those who have music tuition and are in the COPS choir. Parents and family members are all welcome to hear an evening of musical talent.

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.

COPS provides further musical experiences throughout the year for pupils to be a part of, in addition to the ones stated above in Part B.

- Weekly, whole school singing assemblies which involve, listening to music from different eras, vocal warm-ups, singing in rounds and groups and use language to develop music understanding e.g., round, verse, chorus, repetition, melody, instrumentation etc.
- Every year, the choir perform at various events from the O2 for the coveted Young Voices Concert which is country wide. Here they get to not only perform a variety of choral pieces which deepen their musical horizons, but they hear and experience performances from well-known bands and soloists or in local music festivals.
- There are half-termly class assemblies, where all children are involved and can showcase their learning of the wider curriculum- this has a heavy music focus with singing forming a significant part of the performance. This is shown to the whole-school and parents.
- The annual EYFS and KS1 Nativity where singing songs, helps tell the story. This is a performance shown to the whole school and again to parents and families.
- At the end of every year is the Year 6 Production, where pupils are given opportunities to sing as a class, in a group or as soloists.

In the future

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

In terms of forward planning to further improve our current Music Curriculum offer, we aim to consider the following points to advance the provision:

- To continue embedding the teaching of music, of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 and 2.
- To continue to have a dedicated music space for private tuition. a school ensemble, band, or group.
- Updating and replenishing our instrument resources to ensure high-quality, whole-class instrument lessons continue.
- To provide further opportunities for the school choir to perform in our community and beyond and provide opportunities for all pupils to have termly school performances.
- To plan an opportunity for pupils to enjoy a live performance at least once a year.