

Music development plan summary: St Mary's Cockerton CE Primary School



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	November 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Atkins
Name of local music hub	Durham Music Service

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.

We teach music using Charanga's Original Music Curriculum Scheme, which is aligned with the National Curriculum for Music.

The Scheme provides teachers with week-by-week lesson support for each year group in the school. It is ideal for specialist and non-specialist teachers and provides lesson plans, assessment, clear progression, and engaging and exciting whiteboard resources to support every lesson. The Scheme supports all the requirements of the national curriculum and provides an integrated, practical, exploratory and child-led approach to musical learning.

Children including all children with SEND or physical disabilities, access this curriculum weekly.

Through the Charanga scheme of work, class teachers provide explicit teaching of singing, percussion and glockenspiel.

We work in partnership with Durham Music Service (DMS), who support the school through training and support to deliver the curriculum.

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.

This year children in Year 3 will learn to play the Ukulele through the Durham Music Service Primary First Access scheme. Every child will explore the magic of instrumental learning in a fun and inclusive way. Sessions are carefully designed to develop pupils' love of, confidence and progress in music, while also enhancing their personal and educational development. The use of voice is integral to the sessions and contributes to overall vocal development within our school.

The school offers an annual choir club in the Spring term, which is open to children in Years 5 and 6 at no charge. This is run as an after-school club by class teachers to enter the annual Mayor's Song Contest which gives the children the opportunity to sing in front of a large audience. This club provides a range of opportunities:

- learning new material
- singing in solo and ensemble contexts
- exploring a range of genres outside of their experience
- performing at the annual Mayor's Song Contest in front of a large audience

From Year 3 upwards, parents can pay for specialist face-to-face lessons in groups during school time with a Durham Music Service Teacher to learn to play the viola or violin.

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.

The children have a range of opportunities to participate in musical experiences throughout the year:

- Reception to Year 6 take part in whole school Collective Worship three times a week, which includes hymn singing
- Termly class assemblies for parents and carers give the children opportunities to perform what they have learned through their music lessons
- Regular church services at St Mary's Church give further opportunities for singing

- Children participate in carol singing opportunities in the local community in the lead up to Christmas
- Reception and KS1 children perform a musical Nativity each year
- Year 6 children perform in their Leavers' Assembly for their parents and carers

In the future

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

Our aims are:

- to provide access to a wider range of musical instruments as part of the music lesson
- to provide further opportunities for performance

Further information (optional)

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Further information about local opportunities can be found at:

<https://www.durhammusic.org.uk/>