

Music development plan summary: Whale Hill Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music leads	Mrs Evenden and Miss Berry
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs Marsden and Mr Forster
Name of local music hub	TVMS (no tuition; Charanga music scheme providers)
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A: Music tuition is provided by the school.

This is a summary of how our school, **Whale Hill Primary 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.

All documents supporting the Music Curriculum at Whale Hill Primary School can be found on the school website.

- Our Music curriculum at Whale Hill Primary School is based on the guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 2. For whole-class teaching, our curriculum is based on 'Charanga', a music scheme created and published by the local music hub TVMS.
- Through whole-class teaching, all children in lessons have access to a range of instruments. In Key Stage 1, the children use tuned and untuned percussion. In Years 3 and 4, the children each have a recorder. In Years 5 and 6, the children learn to play classical guitar. Singing takes place in both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

- Differentiation: For children with individual needs, alternative instrument provision is always available (this includes playing tuned percussion such as glockenspiels). For children having additional music tuition with Miss Berry, the children can use their preferred instrument in lessons, such as soprano or alto saxophone; flute, clarinet and violin.
- We use Charanga, created and provided by our local music hub, TVMS.

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.

Outside of lesson time, extra and additional music tuition happens on a lunchtime for the following instruments: soprano and alto saxophone; flute; clarinet and violin.

The ensembles that we offer at **Whale Hill Primary School** are:

1. The Whale Hill Choir currently for children from Years 3 – 6.
2. Lunchtime String Ensemble
3. Lunchtime Woodwind Group
4. After School Brass Club

All instruments are school's own instruments (flutes and clarinets) or Miss Berry's (Music Lead's) own instruments (saxophones and violins). Most brass instruments (with the exception of the school's own trumpets) are on loan from Bilsdale Brass Band. There is no charge for instruments or instrument hire. Pupils can take instruments home after school and during the holidays (except the six-week holidays when they are cleaned and taken in for maintenance). Pupils can also take music home from ensembles and lessons to practice and they can borrow music stands from the school (Miss Berry – Music Lead's own) to practise at home. There is no charge for instruments, equipment or music. The school aims to keep music provision **free for all pupils** (except the purchase of some concert tickets).

Practice space available in Miss Berry's (Music Lead) classroom. Choir practice takes place in the lower school hall.

Other support the school receives to further co-curricular music:

1. Links with a jazz band, where members are invited into the school and to support at school events. Pupils can join once they have reached secondary school age and are at a suitable age.
2. Links with a local brass band. This band has made sheet music donations and loaned the school several brass instruments to develop brass provision in the school from September 2024 onwards. Pupils can join once they have reached secondary school age and are at a suitable age.

3. Volunteers have asked to work with the school to support the development of school ensembles and the provision of brass. This has been in place since September 2024 onwards.

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.

Musical experiences 2024 -2025 included:

Weekly

Singing in phase and whole assemblies.

Autumn Term

Christmas: The School Christmas Ensemble played at a local venue in Middlesbrough 'Little Sprouts.' Free.

Christmas: The Whale Hill Choir were invited to sing in local nursing homes. The Christmas ensemble also played at one nursing home. Free.

Christmas: The Steel River Academy Trust Christmas Concert was held. This included performances by a choir (all four schools); the band (Whale Hill and Bankfields) and a joint performance of both.

Christmas Tree Dressing: A mixture of invited musicians, staff and pupils (past and present) played to an audience of pupils, staff and some parents. This gave all children the opportunity to participate in singing, to hear live music and to give some pupils the opportunity to play with established musicians. Free.

KS1: Christmas performances to parents (Christmas Nativity performances).

Reception and Nursery: Christmas sing-along of Christmas songs for parents and carers.

Spring Term

Brass club started and there was an end of term performance of the songs learned for parents and carers.

Summer Term

June 2025: Brass club final performance before the end of the summer term

July 2025: Musical theatre production of Annie held at the school, including a performance for residents of a local care home, who were invited to an afternoon performance at the school. Tickets sold to raise money for the development of Musical Theatre provision at the school.

July 2025: The Year 6 Leavers' Concert – a celebration of songs and singing. Performances for the school and for parents and carers.

Proposed Musical Experiences For 2025 – 2026

To continue to offer a range of musical opportunities, concerts and experiences during each term of the new academic year.

In the future

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

In subsequent years:

1. To develop the school's role as Lead Music School for the area, working closely with other schools and the local music hub TVMS.
2. To develop more opportunities to network with the other schools within the academy trust, with the aim to have more joint concerts, to develop a possible music festival and to enable players from other schools within the trust to join the school band. Stronger links with the local secondary schools so that more past pupils can return and be supported with their music.
3. To develop other ensembles at Whale Hill to support absolute beginners and very young players and singers in KS1. This could take the form of a recorder group and a KS1 choir.
4. To continue to actively welcome back more past secondary pupils to play in the band and to sing in the choir. This will support them with their musical journey and hopefully create a 'music buddy' or mentoring system for the musicians and singers at Whale Hill.
5. To continue working with professionals and to continue to invite visitors and established professional musicians into school to perform and work with the children.
6. To continue to develop brass instrument provision in the school.
7. School concerts published on the website after the event with videos / sound bites if possible and to seek out more opportunities to perform in the community.
8. To further develop the role of music within collective worship.
9. To continue to update the stage, lighting and sound equipment to produce effective concerts and productions on site at Whale Hill Primary School.