

Music development plan summary: Viewley Hill Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	1 st September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	1st September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Miss Bailey
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Curriculum Lead: Mrs Gardiner, DHT
Name of local music hub	Tees Valley Music Service (TVMS)
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Emma Sheraton/ Adam Gibson

This is a summary of how music education is delivered to all pupils at Viewley Hill Academy across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences – and our aims for the future of music at the academy. This information is to help pupils and parents and 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.

Our curriculum follows the National Curriculum for music and is delivered through the Tees Valley Music Service programme, ‘Charanga’. All children receive at least an hour of music teaching a week. The music curriculum is delivered by class teachers, in addition to bespoke experiences through external provision.

Singing

Every week, all children take part in a 30 – 45 minute (dependent on age) singing lesson with independent, external providers, singing teacher Miss Emma Sheraton and pianist Mr Adam Gibson.

These lessons teach many of the inter-dimensions of music, such as pitch, dynamics, tempo and structure as well as breath control, diction, warming up voices, part singing and singing in harmony. Singing is also a very important part of Viewley Hill’s holistic

approach to personal development, in that all pupils are encouraged to sing solos, in parts or in smaller groups. Rewards are given and children are often seen to have grown in confidence and self-esteem through their participation. The importance for all pupils of taking part as a respectful audience member and paying attention to the performer is also taught and expected.

Instruments – Performing and Composing

At Viewley Hill Academy, our weekly Singing lessons provide the opportunity for children from Nursery to Year 6 to perform to an audience of their peers. Children are encouraged (and keen) to take the microphone and perform songs they have practised to their phase. The academy also has a competition-standard choir, who regularly perform to the community and have also performed to multiple schools at Trust days.

In addition, every half term, in line with the Charanga-based learning, each class will explore performing and composing, playing and improvising with a range of percussion and tuned instruments. See below for the instruments used within each year group as part of the music curriculum:

Early Years:

Play along with singing using shakers, claves, tambourines
Introduction to Glockenspiels (Summer term)

Year 1 and 2:

Play along to music tracks using percussion instruments, including bells, tambourines, bodhran and bongo drums.
Accompany music with glockenspiels

Year 3 and 4:

Play along to music tracks using percussion instruments, including shakers, bells, tambourine, bodhran and bongo drums.
Accompany music using a glockenspiel
Introduction to recorders

Year 5 and 6:

Play along to music tracks using percussion instruments, including shakers, claves, bells, tambourine, bongo and djembe drums.
Compose and play using percussion instruments, glockenspiel and/ or recorder

Listening and Appraising

Every half term, each class engages in a programme of listening and appraising music as part of the 'Charanga' music resource. Each half term has a different theme, with a focussed music style, from nursery rhymes and action songs in Early Years to an

exploration of blues and jazz in year 6. Please see below for an overview of genres studied:

Year 1: African, Classical and Pop

Year 2: Bhangra, Classical and Pop

Year 3: Reggae, Classical and Electronic

Year 4: Folk, Disco and Rock

Year 5: Gospel, Baroque and Jazz & Blues

Year 6: Hip Hop, Jazz and Rap

Children with special educational needs (SEND)

Viewley Hill Academy's music curriculum is inclusive to all children. We encourage and support all of our pupils to engage in music at a level appropriate to their stage of development, whether this is chronologically in-line with peers or not. Targeted support and appropriate differentiation is given to enable all pupils to engage with and enjoy music activities.

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.

Additional Experiences

Throughout the year, Viewley Hill Academy seeks opportunities for children across school to engage in musical experiences within and outside the wider curriculum. A recent example of this was an African drumming workshop undertaken by lower Key Stage 2 pupils.

After-school clubs

There are also opportunities outside of the Music curriculum that children participate in through our after-school clubs offer. Our recorder club are working on their graded recorder awards, for example.

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

In addition to their peer-group performances, every pupil at the academy has the opportunity to perform for a wider audience at different points in the year. Some examples are given below:

Autumn Term:

Reception pupils devise, share work and perform songs to the school during our annual Harvest Festival celebration.

Reception pupils perform to the school and to their parents with a nativity performance.

Key Stage One perform in a separate, scripted Nativity production.

Key Stage Two perform to parents in a Singing performance.

The choir perform in a Community Concert, which a range of local community members attend. The choir are also asked to perform at local residential homes for their residents.

Spring Term

As part of our annual Easter celebration assembly, the whole school performs in phases as part of a retelling of the Easter story.

Summer Term

Year 6 children perform a scripted 'Leavers' Assembly' and perform songs to their parents and invited guests from the community.

Key Stage Two perform to parents in a Singing performance.

The choir perform in a Community Concert, which a range of local community members attend.

In addition to these timetabled events, pupils, particularly those in the school choir, also attend festivals (such as the 'Shine' festival) and external events, for example, as organised by local housing association Habinteg.

Music Trips or Visits

As part of building their cultural capital, all pupils attend a local pantomime each Christmas season.

Pupils in the choir also have the opportunity to attend live music events, such as a production of 'The Lion King' in Sunderland in academic year 2023 – 24.

In the future

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

We will continue to seek live performance opportunities across the year as they arise; either for pupils to visit live performances or for musicians to visit us.

The Music subject lead and curriculum lead are actively seeking opportunities for pupils to participate further in opportunities to learn to play an instrument. Due to the nature of the context of the academy, this needs to be a funded opportunity.

We will continue to pursue opportunities for those pupils with a particular talent or interest in music to participate in additional activities, potentially those where qualifications may be achieved, within our community or through the Trust.

Further information

For further information about Tees Valley Music Service, see their website:

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

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.