

Music development plan summary: Phoenix Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	September 1st 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 7 th 2025
Name of the school music lead	Josh Solnick
Name of local music hub	Southwark

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.

- Each class has a weekly one-hour music lesson as well as an additional half-hour music assembly each week.
- We employ a Specialist Music Teacher who delivers the ***Music Curriculum (Link to Music LTP 2024-2025)*** from Years 2 – 6. Year 1 and ***Early Years Music (Link Early Years LTP 2024-2025)*** is delivered by the class teachers with support and supervision from the Music Lead.
- Underpinning our music curriculum is a spiral model of progression – with outcomes drawn from the Department for Education’s *Model Music Curriculum* – that charts an ambitious learning journey from ***EYFS (link to EYFS Progress Map)*** to ***Year 6 (link to Y1 – Y6 Progress Map)***. We have divided our provision into four key areas: *Singing, Active Listening, Composing and Improvising* and *Performance*. These are developed throughout the year. As the children progress on their music journey, they are exposed to new musical material and skills, while revising previous content to aid their mastery of these four areas. In addition to using a range of classroom percussion (tuned and untuned), children start learning the ukulele in Year 3. They continue to learn ensemble and solo pieces on these instruments as

they progress through the school. Furthermore, these instruments, and computer programmes (Chrome Music Lab and Ableton), are used as tools for composition and improvisation.

- In Music assemblies children develop their singing, active listening skills and increase their understanding of music cultures (historical and present). Music assemblies also provide regular performance opportunities for instrumentalists, aspiring musicians and excited children to share their success and develop their stagecraft.
- Our curriculum is broad and balanced, with units built around an exciting and diverse repertoire. We seek to represent and engage all our pupils and develop their cultural capital, both through experiences like trips, performance opportunities and live music concerts that broaden their cultural experience but also by helping them recognise their own cultural capital, and self-actualise as the unique music-makers they can be, each with their own particular sonic and cultural influences to contribute, not only to the school, but to the world.
- At Phoenix, we strive to nurture virtuosity whilst simultaneously responding to every single member of our school - removing barriers to learning and adapting to our children's needs while providing them with the skill-base and knowledge to increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.
- All children attend Music lessons. Children with SEND are supported take part in the whole music curriculum, and make excellent progress in line with their peers. Lessons are inclusive and teaching adaptive – personalised to learners' needs. With weekly music assemblies and performances, our whole school community is brought together through the sheer joy of music-making, which is a great contribution to the positive mental health and wellbeing at our school.
- The curriculum has been designed for the Mayflower Federation by the Music Lead, who has adapted it especially for our schools. We remain committed to the cutting-edge of music-education research, responding to updates in Government policy and working as closely as possible with Southwark Music Hub.

Part B: Co-curricular music (Music tuition, Choir and Rocksteady)

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.

Music Tuition

We subsidise instrumental lessons in the following instruments: violin, piano and guitar, with additional subsidies for children whose families qualify for Pupil Premium. The instrumental lessons, delivered by our team of highly-skilled peripatetic professionals, take place in paired or small group lessons. Children have opportunities to perform during music assemblies and formally in yearly concerts.

At the end of each academic year, around June-July, we will send out letters to all children from Year 2 to Year 5, asking them if they would like to enrol in music tuition for the next academic year. Spaces are limited; we only have openings when Year 6 students leave or if someone withdraws. For each individual tuition (to ensure fairness) we select names randomly, from those who have returned their form by the deadline. Fees are £70 for 10 lessons over the course of the term, and £40 for children who receive the PP grant.

All children learning an instrument have the option of borrowing an instrument so they are able to practise at home. If you are unclear about this please contact the school office. Instruments must be cared for and a contract signed to ensure that they are returned in good condition after the loan period ends (when the child ends their time at the school, tuition, or has their own instrument to use).

Choir

We offer a lunchtime choir throughout the year for Years 4,5 and 6 to which all children are welcome, however children must demonstrate their commitment through their punctual, enthusiastic attendance and excellent behaviour. We are very excited about this new provision and will inform parents by letter about concerts as the year progresses.

Rocksteady

Furthermore, through our Rocksteady programme, children can choose from the electric guitar, keyboard, drums or vocals and enjoy playing in a happy, supportive environment with their friends. Lessons are 30-minutes long and take place in school time with all instruments provided, making it hassle-free for parents. There are termly concerts at school assemblies, where children demonstrate their progress to friends, teachers and parents. If you are interested in your child taking part in Rocksteady you can find out more and sign up here: <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>

Part C: Musical experiences (events and performances)

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.

Some of the musical experiences planned for Phoenix Primary School this year are:

- Weekly singing assemblies for KS1 and KS2 (for children)
- Seeing a live concert performed by a professional 'World Music' artist (for children)
- Children and staff-members performing solo and ensemble in music assembly.
Performances include original compositions, piano and violin solos and live improvisation.
- The Phoenix Christmas Concert series, including all children from EYFS to Y6 (open to parents and carers)

- Christmas choir concerts in Southwark Homes for Elderly Residents with children from across the Mayflower federation
- A Staff Christmas pantomime with a popular music soundtrack (performed by staff for children)
- Year 5 performance of Disney's *The Lion King* performed in school and at The Lyceum in the West End, in partnership with *Disney Musicals in School* (details to follow by letter)
- Termly Rocksteady performances (performed by children for parents)
- Celebration Assemblies to showcase children's learning in the summer term (for parents)
- Year 6 Summer musical performance (for children and parents)

In the future

Excitingly, the last two years has seen significant changes to the music curriculum and provision at the Mayflower Federation. For example, this is only the second year that children have been timetabled to have music for one hour a week, doubling from once a fortnight the previous year. Likewise, last year was the first time children started learn the ukulele in Year 3. This year is the first time we will have lunchtime choir open to all KS2 children, all year round. As the benefits of these implementations are embedded and the skills and talents show we are hoping to develop further avenues for performances and community engagement, as well as ways of sharing performances digitally.

Further information (Links to Local Opportunities)

Any questions about our Music Curriculum or provision can be sent to office@mayflowerfederation.org.uk and addressed to the Music Lead.

Below is are some links to local opportunities we thought you might be interested in.

Southwark Music Saturday Centre

If you would like to invest further in your child's music education we would whole-heartedly recommend sending your child to Southwark Music Saturday centre.

<https://www.southwarkmusicservice.org.uk/what-we-do/saturday-music-centre>

Southwark Music Progression Portal

You can find the [Progression Portal here!](#)

This resource is for children, young people, schools, partners, and tutors.

The Portal is divided into 7 tabs and within this you can find further information about the range of opportunities on offer throughout Southwark and beyond.

- Workshops and Masterclasses
- Summer Schools and Short Courses
- Concerts
- Auditions
- Open Days
- Southwark Music Events
- Teachers and CPD

Kinetika Bloco

Kinetika Bloco is a youth music charity with an exuberant mix of young brass and woodwind players, drummers, steel pan and dancers all in costume creating a “unique new British Carnival sound with a decidedly London edge” (BBC Radio 2). <https://kinetikabloco.co.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.