

Music development plan summary: Cononley 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 lead	Catherine Pickles
Name of local music hub	North Yorkshire Music Hub Home - North Yorkshire Music Hub

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

At Cononley Primary School, we believe that Music is a unique way of communicating which can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression and plays an important role in the personal development of each child. Music reflects culture and society and so the teaching and learning of music enables children to better understand the world they live in. It also plays an important role in helping children feel part of a community.

Substantive and Disciplinary Knowledge in Music

The content of our Music Curriculum fulfils the requirements of the National Curriculum for Music and comprises both substantive and disciplinary knowledge.

Substantive Knowledge in Music:

- substantive knowledge in Music refers to the inter-related dimensions of music (rhythm, pulse, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, metre and structure) **Disciplinary**

Knowledge in Music:

- this is the application and interpretation of substantive knowledge (the interrelated dimensions of music) through performance, composition, appreciation and understanding of the history of music.

What our pupils will learn (intent):

We use the Oak National Academy music curriculum to deliver the requirements for EYFS Expressive Arts and Design and for the National Curriculum for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. The scheme of work builds knowledge of the inter-related dimensions of music in a structured and creative way, enabling children to know and remember more as they progress through school. The Oak Academy resources support teachers who are non-specialists.

Pupils throughout school enjoy learning a range of core songs each year (using materials on the Sing Up website) which are used to practise and apply the interrelated dimensions of music.

In Key Stage 2, pupils also build knowledge of core composers and pieces of music using the BBC Ten Composers resources; these are studied in music lessons and reinforced by listening to them during assemblies.

Our Music curriculum is also informed by the Model Music Curriculum (DfE 2021.)

How our pupils will be taught (implementation):

In EYFS, the music element of Expressive Arts and Design is taught as a discrete weekly lesson and is also integrated into other subjects and provision areas where relevant.

Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, the Music curriculum is taught in discrete weekly lessons. Music and singing are also used to enhance other curriculum areas, such as assemblies.

Progress and Assessment in Music

EYFS

Ongoing observations and assessments of learning contribute to a summative assessment at the end of EYFS using the Early Years Outcomes for Expressive Arts and Design

KS1

Teachers make ongoing assessments and record the outcomes at the end of the unit.

KS2

Teachers assess progress using a combination of ongoing assessments and short end of unit quizzes

Assessments are used to check that 'sticky' knowledge has been transferred to children's long-term memories. Progress will be measured by children knowing and remembering more.

Part B: Music Tuition, Ensembles and Choir

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 is available through the North Yorkshire Music Hub. Children are taught in school by specialist peripatetic teachers and tuition is available in a wide range of instruments. The North Yorkshire Music Hub also provides pupils with the opportunity to take part in ensembles and choirs. More information is available on the North Yorkshire Music Hub website: [Home - North Yorkshire Music Hub](#)

Mr Harry Hinchcliffe (from the Craven School of Music) offers tuition in the piano accordion.

There is a charge for music lessons that take place in school; pupils who are eligible for the Pupil Premium Grant can receive music lessons free of charge. Please contact the school office for more information.

In school, there is a Key Stage 2 choir which takes place at lunchtimes. The choir performs in our annual Carol Concert and in the Young Voices Concert. The choir is open to any child in Key Stage 2.

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.

Our pupils enjoy singing and creating music with percussion instruments and technology. They engage with different styles of music and are keen to share their opinions. All of our pupils sing regularly in public performances (Nativity Performances, Carol Concerts, Class Assemblies, KS2 Summer Performance) singing tunefully and confidently. Our school choir has also taken part in the Young Voices Concert on several occasions over the past few years.

Where possible, we enable our pupils to listen to live performances; these include recitals from North Yorkshire Music Hub musicians and Mr Harry Hinchcliffe (piano accordion). In the past, pupils have also taken part in Djembe drumming workshops.

In the future

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

In subsequent years, we would like to enable our pupils to listen to more live performances from a range of musicians and traditions and to take part in more interactive workshops.

Further information

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.