

Music development plan summary: Wyvern school

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	June 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2026
Name of the school music lead	Louise Mailhot-Rawlence
Name of local music hub	Milton Keynes 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

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.

At Wyvern school we aim to enthuse the children in developing a lifelong love of music and helping them expand their musical skills. They will learn to work cooperatively with their peers as they sing and perform, developing their creativity, self-confidence and sense of achievement. Through our equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practise, we ensure that every child is included and supported during music lessons.

At Wyvern school, music is taught across all year groups, from pre-school to year 2, in a comprehensive progression informed by the guidelines of the national model music curriculum (March 2021).

In pre-school the children receive weekly music lessons of 20-25 minutes where they learn a wide range of songs including well-known nursery rhymes. They will develop their ability to move to music, play untuned percussion instruments in various ways and perform songs with their peers.

In reception, broadly using the Music Express scheme of work, we use a cross-curricular approach to our music tuition. The children receive weekly lessons of 30 minutes. They will learn a large variety of songs on different topics, exploring the various dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch, dynamics) as they do so. They will develop their ability to move to music. Using a wide range of tuned and untuned percussion instruments, they will create accompaniment for songs and stories. They will learn to play instruments with control and expression. Finally, they will begin to listen attentively to music and talk about their feelings related to what they hear.

In Key Stage 1, we also broadly use the Music Express scheme of work relevant to each respective year group. Our music is delivered following a cross curricular approach creating links with the learning across the various topics. The children receive weekly lessons of 45 minutes.

The children will learn to use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes on a great variety of topics.

They will listen to music from various composers and cultures. They will learn to describe what they hear using musical language (inter-related dimensions of music) and express their feelings and ideas related to the music.

They will compose their own music as they accompany songs and stories, using descriptive sounds and playing with expression using a wide range of tuned and untuned instruments.

They will develop their musicianship by exploring the inter-related dimensions of music such as pulse (beat), rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, duration, structure, texture and timbre. They will learn how to combine those inter-related dimensions in their compositions as they accompany songs, chants and stories.

They will use symbols/graphic scores to represent their sounds which will lead to learning to read basic music notation.

The children's progress will be closely monitored with weekly assessments at the beginning of each lesson using our flashback slide questions, at the end of lessons with plenary questions, with observations during lessons, with half- termly video footage and quizzes. An overall grade is given at the end of each academic year concerning attainment and effort.

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.

Besides our weekly music lessons for every child at Wyvern, we offer the following:

- **Choir.** We offer the opportunity for our KS1 children to join our Wyvern choir. We hold free weekly session of 30 minutes taking place during the lunch hour. The choir is offered as a choice for all children, amongst other extra-curricular activities at the beginning of each term. A parent mail is sent out to this effect. Our choir performs for various occasions such as: during whole school singing assemblies on a half-termly basis and for our local community event Carols on the Square around Christmas time. We have also performed at the Milton Keynes Museum and at Foundation House in Wolverton.
- From September 2025, Y2 children will have the opportunity to take part in violin or cello lessons organised by the Milton Keynes music service. A parentmail will be sent out before the end of the academic year to this effect. Parent will have to cover the lesson fees and the rental of instruments from the Music service. The lessons will take place at school on Wednesday afternoons.
- During the Summer term we offer recorder tuition for our Y2 children. We provide recorders at a minimal cost. We offer weekly sessions of 30 minutes during the lunch hour on Fridays. At the end of the summer term the children perform to their peers during whole school singing assembly and also for their parents as part of the Y2 leaver's assembly.

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.

- **Weekly 30 minutes singing assemblies.** Through our whole school singing assemblies we aim to promote values of care and respect for all, the importance of cooperation and always trying our best. We encourage the children to be confident and also be respectful members of our school community and the society at large. We use a wide selection of warm-ups, chants and songs promoting the values we seek to practise at our school.
- **Nativity play.** Every year our school produce and perform the story of the Nativity involving all children at Wyvern. Each year group has to learn some songs related to the nativity story and the whole production is performed for parents at the end of the Autumn term.
- Every year our Y2 children take part in the annual Primary Music Festival at our local Ridgeway Centre. This festival is organised by the Milton Keynes Music Hub. On the day they join Y2 children from various schools in Milton Keynes.

The children will then have the opportunity to hear live music from a small band who provides the music for all the singing lead by a professional lead singer.

- Leaver's assembly. As part of their final assembly the Y2 children will present songs that they have explored that year. The recorder club will also have a chance to present some music pieces to all the parents presents.

In the future

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

- We were very grateful that The Milton Keynes music hub 's String Quartet came to our school last year to perform for our children. This year we had a small concert by our Elfin Strings group accompanied by their music teacher. Every year we aim for the children to have the opportunity to hear live music.
- As part of our weekly singing assembly, we have had live music played by saxophone, guitar and piano and we would like to provide more opportunities for the children to listen to live music. To this effect we will try to establish links with the music coordinator of our local secondary school to see if some of their music students could perform for us.
- Website. To keep you more informed we would like to provide more information about musical activities happening within our school on our website and Facebook page.

Further information (optional)

There are other opportunities for your children to develop their musicianship. For further information you could have a look at the MK Music Hub website. Their Music centre has activities on offer for all age groups.

<https://miltonkeynesmusic hub.co.uk/>

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