



Music Development Plan

Kew Riverside Primary School

July 2025 - July 2026

Music Lead: Ardeep Virdi

Local Hub: Richmond Music Trust

Introduction

At Kew Riverside Primary School, our commitment to fostering a love for music among pupils is deeply embedded in our curriculum and ethos. The Music Development Plan delineates our approach to music education, focused on providing a broad and balanced musical education that nurtures each child's personal connection with music. Our aim is to equip children with the knowledge, skills, and understanding required to express themselves musically and to appreciate a variety of musical styles and traditions.

Musical Curriculum Overview

Music is a pivotal part of our educational framework. From Reception through to Year 6, all children receive music lessons designed to enhance their musical skills and create an engaging learning environment. Our music curriculum not only adheres to the National Curriculum but is also grounded in the *model music curriculum* using the *Charanga* scheme of work. Tailored specifically by professional musicians, this scheme consolidates musical education and serves as a roadmap for skill development, ensuring continuity and progression throughout the primary years as outlined on our curriculum pages.

Skills Development

Children at Kew Riverside develop proficiency in a range of musical disciplines, including:

- **Singing:** Regular singing sessions allow children to explore their vocal capabilities and connect with music both individually and collectively. Our singing assembly, for example, provides a regular platform for vocal training and group performances.
- **Instrumental Skills:** Pupils are introduced to various instruments, including percussion and wind instruments. These experiences foster an understanding of instrumental timbre and enhance coordination and fine motor skills.
- **Music Theory and Composition:** As pupils gain confidence in their musical abilities, they are introduced to reading music notation and composing their own pieces. This theoretical knowledge complements their practical skills and encourages creative expression.

Musical Themes and Context

Each unit of work is anchored in thematic explorations, focusing on notable composers or significant historical periods in music. This initiative broadens the children's musical exposure from classical composers such as Mozart to more modern classics from the likes of the Beatles, ABBA and Bill Withers. It also situates music within a cultural and historical context with lessons designed to be inclusive, representing a diverse background of stylistic explorations and artists, which resonate with all learners.

Implementation of the Charanga Music Scheme

The Charanga music scheme is an integral resource utilised to structure our music offer. The scheme provides comprehensive lesson plans, assessment tools, and suggested resources that align with our curriculum goals. Key features of the Charanga programme include:

- **Engaging Content:** With a wealth of music styles and resources, our scheme engages children's interest and provides multiple avenues for learning, ensuring that lessons are both enjoyable and effective.
- **Assessment and Progression:** The scheme includes clear guidelines for assessment and progression, allowing teachers to track pupil development across various aspects of music education.
- **Collaborative Learning:** Charanga promotes a collaborative learning environment, which is particularly beneficial for developing listening and teamwork skills through group activities and performances.

This systematic approach facilitates a solid foundation in musical skills, ensuring children not only learn to play and sing but also delve into the broader aspects of music appreciation.

Enrichment Opportunities

With a wider selection of instruments to hand, and space to practice, Kew Riverside prioritises enrichment activities that complement the core music curriculum, broadening children's musical experiences and fostering a sense of community involvement.

Individual and Small Group Lessons

We provide opportunities for small group and individual singing and instrumental lessons through Richmond Music Trust. Recognising that musical education can require financial support, the school is committed to assisting families in need, ensuring that all children have the opportunity to pursue their musical interests regardless of their financial circumstances.

Whole-Class Wind Instrument Tuition

In Year 4, pupils are introduced to wind instruments through a whole-class tuition scheme led by visiting professional musicians. This initiative not only enhances their instrumental skills but also provides valuable exposure to new instruments and styles of music-making.

Annual Productions and Performances

Kew Riverside hosts an annual musical production for pupils in Years 5&6, allowing children to showcase their talents and collaborate on a stage setting. Additionally, our Early Years and Year 1&2 classes participate in our wonderful nativity performance, while our talent competition, *Q Factor*, attracts performances from a huge range of music and dance - all of which instils a further sense of tradition and community spirit.

Furthermore, the school engages in various community events such as *Kew Sparkle* and hosts a whole school Christmas carol concert at Barn Church - all of which nurture children's confidence and promote a sense of achievement while fostering community ties.

Objectives of the Music Development Plan

The primary objectives of our Music Development Plan encompass:

Curricular Alignment: To ensure that all music education aligns with the National Curriculum, while also reflecting the specific needs and interests of our pupils at Kew Riverside.

Skill Development: To provide a structured and progressive approach to skill acquisition in music, from basic instrument playing and singing in the early years to advanced theoretical understanding and composition in later years.

Cultural Exposure: To expose children to a diverse range of musical genres, traditions, and historical contexts, fostering a broader appreciation for music as an art form.

Community Engagement: To strengthen community links through regular performances, encouraging children to share their musical skills and experiences with a wider audience.

Inclusive Education: To create an inclusive music programme that accommodates the varied needs and backgrounds of all pupils, ensuring no child is left behind in their musical journey.

Next Steps

Professional Development for Staff: To implement ongoing professional development for staff, equipping teachers with the latest pedagogical strategies in music education and innovative teaching methods.

Subject Leadership: To establish new avenues opportunities to lead in the subject of music.

Monitoring and Evaluation

To ensure the effectiveness of our Music Development Plan, regular monitoring and evaluation will take place. This will involve:

- **Feedback from Pupils and Parents:** Gathering insights from pupils regarding their musical experiences and using this feedback to inform future planning.
- **Teacher Assessment:** Continuous assessment of pupil progress through observational assessments, performance evaluations, and self-assessment techniques.
- **Review of Curriculum Content:** Conducting periodic reviews of the content and structure of the music curriculum to ensure it remains relevant and engaging.

Conclusion

The Music Development Plan for Kew Riverside Primary School reflects our commitment to fostering a vibrant and inclusive musical education for all pupils. By providing a well-rounded curriculum supported by enrichment opportunities and a focus on progression, we

aim to ignite a passion for music that will last a lifetime. Our approach is intentional and methodical, ensuring each child's unique connection with music is nurtured throughout their educational journey. We believe that a solid foundation in music will not only enhance children's creativity and self-expression but will also contribute to their overall personal and social development as they progress beyond primary education.

Music Information for Parents & Young People

More information about music in the Richmond Borough can be found from our local trust:

Richmond Music Trust

<https://www.richmondmusictrust.org.uk/site/>

Richmond Music Trust
7 Briar Road
Twickenham
Middlesex
TW2 6RB

020 8538 3866 (main office)

020 8744 8097 (music therapy office)

General email: admin@richmondmusictrust.org.uk

Department for Education

A guide to the national plan for music education and how to get help for parents, carers and young people can be found here.

Music education: information for parents and young people - GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people>