

Music development plan summary for Pembridge CE Primary School:

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	November 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	November 2025
Name of the school music lead	Hayley Osborne
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Robert Hollis
Name of local music hub	Encore Enterprises (Herefordshire)

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-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.

How does music inspire our children?

Children are surrounded by music which has the effect to calm or energise in equal measure! By giving them the knowledge and skills to understand and use music, we will inspire creativity and self-expression. We encourage our children on their musical journeys by giving them opportunities to connect with others through listening, composing, playing and evaluating. We hope to foster a life-long love of music by exposing them to diverse musical experiences and igniting a passion for music. It is well-known that singing together relieves stress, brings enjoyment and encourages togetherness – all good for our school family. During their years with us, we aim to build that enthusiasm and confidence to share their musical skill in performance whether in class or to a wider audience.

How is our teaching and learning in music organised?

A two-year rolling programme ensures that music skills, knowledge and understanding are built on and developed as children progress through the school. In each year, children have three questions which lead them to perform, compose and appraise music in different ways. They take inspiration from a song (or other piece of music) and take an integrated approach to learning which includes activities related to listening, singing, playing, improvising and composing. We use objectives from Focus Education which help children to develop their ability to sing and play instruments with increasing confidence and control. They also become more able to use notation and composition alongside organising ideas and musical structures. Children in Key Stage 2 start learning the ukelele. We also make full use of Sing Up (based on the model music curriculum) to help structure and inspire our teaching and learning. Music is timetabled for a weekly lesson during half-termly units. These are flexibly arranged over a term. Regular singing sessions happen throughout the year. We have a growing relationship through the music lead with Encore Enterprises and across the Trust schools to support excellence in music teaching. Our learning behaviours are interwoven with these so that we enable children to engage in the subject with growing independence and curiosity.

How does music help our children to flourish and be worthy of praise?

Our school has a strong reputation for enjoying singing, visiting the Royal Three Counties Show and Hereford Cathedral to share our songs with passion! We often take a large number of children each year to sing with 5000 others at Young Voices and to experience music from different cultures and styles. Our children enthusiastically explain what aspects of music excite them and many talk confidently about the choices they make when composing music of their own. A number of children have additional peripatetic lessons which contribute to their knowledge of music. No child is financially excluded from these if they wish to develop a talent. We take pride in using our musical skills alongside drama to perform in front of audiences who are very appreciative of how this enriches our wider curriculum.

Part B: Extra-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.

The school currently has three peripatetic music teachers during the week:

- A specialist for vocal coaching and singing.
- A specialist for keyboard and piano.
- A specialist for guitar, ukelele, woodwind and brass.

Children are invited for tuition through parental letters on an annual basis, and usually from Year 2 upwards. A private arrangement is made between the music teacher and family for charging. Children in receipt of Pupil Premium are especially welcome to be involved in this tuition and sessions are free. We are always welcome to discuss difficulties with payment – no child should be turned away. There are opportunities for children to perform in front of the school and to parents and carers.

There is a strong passion for singing as a school. Weekly 'Songs and Praise' helps develop a set of core songs we sing in worship and share with others in opportunities outside of school.

An after-school choir runs weekly for children (Y3-6) who want to extend their singing skills. They perform in special acts of worship or attend larger events such as Young Voices in Birmingham. Children have the opportunity to compete every year in the Hereford performing Arts Festival, either individually and as a choir.

Children who receive singing tuition, and members of the school choir including past-pupils, sometimes gather with the village choir 'Love to Sing' to perform at events in the community and beyond.

There are, of course, other children who practise their talents and receive tuition outside of school. They are encouraged to share these gifts in performances and services in school.

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.

Apart from regular singing in worship, the school enjoys putting on music-based drama productions each year where all children are involved. Solos and duets are often sung. Usually each term, each class shares a worship with parents and carers. Singing and/or the evidence of music teaching is often performed.

The school has enjoyed collaborating with other school choirs and associated musicians with the Hereford Cathedral School. This is also now developing across other Diocese of Hereford Multi-Academy Trust schools too.

Occasional visits by Key Stage 1 pupils to local theatres (such as the Courtyard or Ludlow) and Key Stage 2 pupils to drama performances (which contain live music) in Birmingham are explored. There is a biennial visit to Young Voices for those children Year 3 and up. Trips are subsidised by the PTFA and for those children in receipt of Pupils Premium, they are free.

In the future

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

The school will in 2024-2025:

- Develop working links with Encore Enterprises to enable the music lead, staff and pupils to develop musically.
- Support the music lead to identify how the curriculum can be improved so that it builds on skills and knowledge from one class to the next and over each two-year programme.
- Enrich opportunities for teaching music vocabulary within sessions such as in 'Songs and Praise' or practising for performances and productions.
- Work towards ensuring music teaching is timetabled for an hour a week every week in subsequent years. This time may also be better explored through shorter more regular teaching opportunities.
- Co-ordinate and increase opportunities for visits and visitors which specifically focus on music so that in subsequent years more pupils have greater access to a wider range of music genres.

Further information

The school music lead and visiting specialists have local knowledge of what opportunities are available for young people to further develop their access to and enrichment from music. They can be contacted through the school.

Information regarding Encore Enterprises can be found [here](#).

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.