

Music development plan summary: Portway Junior School

Music Education at Portway Junior School

Curriculum Music:

- Weekly lessons for Key Stage 2 every half term.
- Explore Renaissance, Baroque, Classical, and Romantic periods.
- Develop skills in pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, structure, and notation.

Instrumental and Vocal Lessons:

- Offerings include piano, guitar, drums, violin, and voice.
- Interactive learning with Charanga for keyboard, glockenspiel, and percussion.

School Choir and Ensemble:

- Weekly practices and participation in events like Young Voices.

Live Performances:

- Annual attendance at live performances.

Partnerships:

- Collaborate with Derby Music Centre and local organisations.

Future Plans:

- Establish a new school ensemble for collaborative music-making.
- Organise termly performances and informal showcases within year groups to build confidence.

Conclusion: We strive to instil a lifelong love of music through inclusive education.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	12 th June 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miss C Hughes
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	N/A
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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.

The school curriculum for music for each year group can be accessed through the curriculum page on our school website. Our SEND report can be found on our policies page, which details how we increase access for pupils and support pupils with Special Educational Needs.

Overview:

We aim to ignite children's passion for music, develop their confidence, and strengthen their self-belief as young musicians. In line with our school vision of creating lifelong learners, children will experience and gain wonderful new musical skills to strengthen their knowledge in self-reflection, improvisation, composition, and performance.

From the beginning of Year 3 to the end of Year 6, children will be empowered and equipped to know how music is created. Music will also develop an understanding of culture and history, both in relation to children individually, as well as ethnicities - gaining and developing an appreciation for different composers who have had a significant influence in genres of music across the world.

Through excellent knowledge of the inter-related dimensions (pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, structure, and notation), the children will grow, demonstrate, and communicate their love of music. As a result, they will gain valuable expertise in the universal language of music...and enjoy it along the way!

Curriculum Time Allocation:

Music is taught every half term (weekly) in the autumn, spring, and summer.

Curriculum Structure:

Year 3: Renaissance period

Year 4: Baroque period

Year 5: Classical period

Year 6: Romantic period

Each year group explores different genres and historical periods of music, learning to appraise and understand the styles, instruments, and key events that shaped music history. In addition, each year group will:

Experience learning and performing a song.

Continue learning how to play an instrument through reading music.

Engage with Charanga to support all learners with interactive games and features for learning instruments such as keyboard, glockenspiel, and percussion instruments.

Skills Development:

Students develop their knowledge of the inter-related dimensions of music: pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, timbre, texture, structure, and notation. They engage in activities involving self-reflection, improvisation, composition, and performance.

Inclusion and Support:

We ensure accessibility for disabled pupils and support pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEND). Our music curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021).

Opportunities to Sing and Play Instruments:

School Choir

Weekly Singing Assemblies

Young Voices

School Performances (Christmas and Year 6 Leavers plays)

Instrument Lessons in School Time (piano, guitar, drums, and violin) held with music teachers.

Music Concerts (where the school choir and those children that play an instrument come together and perform).

The Trust Music Concert provides an opportunity for choirs from different schools within the trust to come together, collaborate, and perform as a shared musical community. This event celebrates students' achievements, encourages collaboration between schools, and gives young singers the opportunity to experience the enjoyment and confidence that comes from performing together.

Part B: Extra-curricular Music and Music Tuition

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 Offered:

- Individual and small group lessons in piano, guitar, drums, and violin provided by music teachers.

Ensembles and Groups:

- School Choir practices weekly and participates in events such as Young Voices and local community performances (music concerts held within school and at a local community area) open to all pupils in KS2.
- Instrument lessons offered in piano, guitar, drums and violin by peripatetic teachers.
- Instrument lessons are free or subsidised for parents or carers in particular circumstances (e.g., pupil premium eligibility).

Partnerships:

- We promote opportunities for our pupils at Derby Music Centre hosted by Beaufort Primary School, one of our trust schools.

Part C: Musical Experiences (Events & 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.

Regular Events:

- Weekly singing assemblies (in the morning).
- Termly school performances (winter and summer music concerts, Christmas and Year 6 Leavers' plays).
- Annual participation in the Young Voices Concert.
- School Performances (Christmas and Year 6 Leavers plays).
- Music Concerts (allowing children to sing and perform in front of parents).
- Whole School Trip (Christmas Time) to Derby Theatre to experience a live performance.

Participation and Attendance:

- All pupils take part as performers or audience members.

In the Future

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

We will continue with our current approach, focusing on strengthening music knowledge for all students. Our aim is to build on the strong foundation we have established, ensuring that all pupils have the opportunity to deepen their understanding and appreciation of music.

Achieving Future Goals

Music Assembly Band:

- **Establish a School Ensemble:** Begin by forming a school music assembly band which will offer group music-making for pupils not currently learning and instrument.

Music Ensemble and Dedicated Music Space Plan

- The school will establish a weekly music ensemble for students who already play a musical instrument, providing regular opportunities to develop their musical skills, confidence, teamwork, and performance abilities. Rehearsals will be structured to be engaging and supportive, helping students to work collaboratively and develop as musicians.
- To support this provision, an existing classroom will be repurposed into a dedicated music room. This space will provide a suitable environment for ensemble rehearsals, instrumental practice, and creative music-making. The music room will become a central hub for musical activities, supporting the growth of the ensemble, encouraging wider student participation, and strengthening the school's musical culture.

We also plan to grow our links with local music organisations.

Further Information (optional)

Use this space to provide any further information about your school's music development plan, including links to your local music hub partners, other local music education organisations and contacts.

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.

Your local [music hub](#) should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.

If your school is part of a multi-academy trust with a trust-wide music development plan, you may also want to include a link to any published information on this plan.