

Thistly Meadow Primary School

Music Development Plan 2024-25



Local authority: Leicestershire

Local music hub: Leicestershire Music

Music lead: Julia Turner

Music specialist : Julia Turner

Head teacher: Colin Bowpitt

Date written: September 2024

Review date: July 2025

-	Music Development Plan
1 – Overall objective	<p>Every child will develop a range of skills in music. They will develop a love for the subject through a range of curricular and extra-curricular opportunities. Every child will learn a range of musical instruments, provided as part of their curriculum learning alongside regular singing sessions and carefully planned music units to develop singing, listening and appreciation, rhythm, score reading, composition, digital music, instrumental playing and performance.</p> <p>As a school we are fully committed to the wider benefits that engaging in music brings to a child. We use music to target vulnerable pupils, to address behavioural, social and emotional issues and to foster peer relationships. We use music to develop focus, concentration and resilience and to promote well-being. We have had wonderful results and will continue to invest in music, as these benefits transfer to other areas of learning.</p> <p>We believe that music is an exceptional tool for helping children to manage their emotions, and we run a range of extra-curricular sessions to target children who have the greatest need for emotional support.</p>
2 – Key components	<p>Key components that make up the music provision at Thistly Meadow Primary School:</p> <p>A music specialist works across the school to ensure that each child has access to quality music provision.</p> <p>Practical whole class instrumental music is taught in years 3-6:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Djembe Drumming Year 3 ● Recorders Year 4 ● Turntabling Year 5 ● Brass Lessons Year 5 ● Steel Pans Year 6 ● Rolling programme of Steel Pans MA Musicians Year 5-6 <p>Singing units linked to history topics throughout the school.</p> <p>Musician of the Month:</p> <p>Each month, children are introduced to the music of a different artist during assembly. This is taught throughout the month so that children develop their knowledge about the musician and their life. Children are exposed to a wide range of musical genres and artists from different cultures and countries across the world; some living and some historic. Many artists use their music as a platform to advocate for peace, environmental awareness or for treating each other with kindness and compassion. The children</p>

have already experienced a wealth of music and really enjoy learning about artists and their lives.

Music curriculum, including use of music technology – EYFS, KS1, KS2, SEND.

Units have been planned by the music specialist to allow the non-specialist music teacher to deliver quality music teaching in every year group.

Units include: Singing, Listening and Appreciating Music, Composing, Graphic Score, Playing Instruments and Performing.

Progression from classroom instrumental teaching – Visiting music teachers offer teaching on a variety of different musical instruments.

Links with external music organisations

Wigston Band

We have an excellent relationship with our local band. They teach pupils in return for their attendance and commitment to their band practice once a week. Lessons are £8 per term, ensuring that they are available to pupils who are unable to afford regular music lesson costs. Instruments are loaned to participating pupils.

Leicestershire Music Hub

Staff from the Music Hub visit each week to provide whole class ensemble teaching.

Pupil Premium student engagement

PP pupils are targeted to attend free extra-curricular music activities. We have an inclusive choir and a steel pans club. Class teachers support and encourage PP children to attend these sessions. In addition, we ensure that PP children are able to continue instrumental tuition with PP funding should they wish to after their WCIT sessions and we identify MA pupils through class sessions and offer them the opportunity to further develop their skills on an instrument of their choice, funded by school. Additional area choir in Blaby. Free places for PP and vulnerable pupils.

CPD

Music Specialist attends annual Music Teachers' conference. Ensures that the curriculum is current and inspires new ideas and music activities to implement at Thistly Meadow, e.g. Turntables, Digital Music etc. Staff INSET during staff meetings. Training for both schools on the new music curriculum took place recently.

	<p>Staff work alongside skilled specialists from Leicestershire Music Service and have received training in steel pans and brass, turntablism, and djembe drumming. Staff deliver extra sessions on some of these instruments to ensure that more children benefit.</p> <p><u>Whole school singing assemblies</u></p> <p>The music specialist runs two singing assemblies each week. One for KS1 and one for KS2. This allows us to develop singing skills with age-appropriate song material. Older children sing in two parts. Song content includes work on PSHE, manners, being kind, global issues and festivals etc. We subscribe to Sing Up and Singchronize. Our children love to sing and they develop good technique, making a quality sound.</p> <p><u>Performance opportunities</u></p> <p>Assemblies, school fetes and concerts. We present history / geography / science content through song. Instrumentalists perform in assemblies. Annual Music Concert – summer leavers’ concert to include contributions from curriculum, extra-curricular and instrumental lessons. Attended by parents and whole school. De Montfort Hall – annual concert with the brass Whole Class Instrumental Teaching (WCIT) Annual Year 6 Show – Musical production, rehearsed in class time then performed to pupils and parents. KS1 Nativity performances to pupils, parents and friends.</p> <p><u>Musical engagement with feeder secondary schools and family of schools</u></p> <p>Choir Day and the Dance Festival are days run by external singing and dance specialists culminating in concerts to parents and public. Several schools work together to collaborate on large projects.</p> <p><u>Additional funding from hub/charities/fundraising</u> PTFA –raise funds to support projects such as Turntabling, Steel Pans, Brass Band etc. Active Arts – local charity contributed to our Family of Schools’ singing day.</p>
<p>3 – Classroom instrumental teaching</p>	<p>WCIT begins in year 3. Thistly Meadow owns a full class set of djembes and this is taught in curriculum time by the music specialist. All lessons are completely inclusive and children learn musical terms such as tempo, dynamics and pulse. They are introduced to standard rhythmic notation and use this to compose their own rhythms.</p>

Year 4 – Recorders

Each child is given a recorder to use throughout this project. Children learn good technique and posture. They are introduced to standard musical notation and read from the musical stave in order to play a variety of tunes on their instrument. Ensemble skills are taught, such as listening to each other, shaping and ending phrases together and observing dynamics.

Year 5 – Brass Band Project

Each child learns to play a musical instrument from the brass family. Children continue their journey in reading musical notation, with both pitch and rhythm. They learn good technique and are given opportunities to play solos and in small groups. Each year, children perform in a large public concert at De Montfort Hall. During the previous two years, we have had a piece composed especially for us to play with six other schools along with a professional ensemble accompanying us. It is a wonderfully inspiring project.

This year-long project is taught by a brass specialist from Leicester Music which costs the school £1.4K per year.

Year 5 – Turntabling

Children learn scratching techniques and how to read and compose using TTM notation. Children work from an online programme especially written for Leicestershire by a music technology expert. This is led in school by a staff member who has received INSET training on this instrument. There are opportunities for children to enter the annual TT competition. (Hired from Leicestershire Music £600)

MA Pans Project (Currently Year 5)

A Steel Pans project runs throughout the year for children who have shown a particular aptitude and enjoyment of music. They learn at a faster pace and have regular performance opportunities throughout the year. Ensemble skills are evident in each lesson, with children developing a secure grasp of chords and the ability to play complex pieces in several parts.

Year 6 – Steel Pans

Children learn to play the steel pans, focusing on learning chords. They understand which notes fit together to make triad chords. They learn to play pieces in several parts requiring a high level of musical skill. Ensemble skills such as maintaining a steady pulse, listening to others, maintaining a part against others, dynamic contrast and control of sound are developed. Children perform their pieces in assemblies and to parents in an end of year concert.

Extra musical opportunities are available for children who wish to engage further. There are clubs for Steel Pans and choir during school time and a variety of area orchestras, bands and choirs which take place after school.

4 – Implementation of key components	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Music Folder • Curriculum • Skills Progression • Evidence – photos / music programmes • Musical Journey books • Sing Up • Singchronize • History / Geography song books
5 – Communication activities	<p>We have a lively and vibrant Facebook page where regular posts are made about music in school. From classroom music to clubs and external performances, examples of music can be found on a weekly basis. We showcase everything from photographs in instrument lessons, exam certificates, class performances, school performances, external performances and videos are posted where we have parental permission. We are so proud of our musicians and the standard they achieve on a wide range of instruments.</p> <p>Peripatetic music teacher’s details are regularly posted on the FB page and parents are encouraged to sign their children up for lessons.</p>
6 – Evaluation process for the success of the Music Development Plan	<p>SLT and staff meet annually to consider what has worked and what we could improve regarding music development. Music has become a real strength of the school and we are very proud of the high standards achieved by our pupils.</p> <p>We also believe in the wider benefits of music. Music undoubtedly promotes wellbeing and addresses rising numbers of anxious pupils. Music is a great leveller as it is not reliant on academic ability. It promotes confidence, concentration, resilience and determination. Pupils are clearly excited about their achievements in music and are very engaged in lessons.</p> <p>Despite continual budget cuts, we remain committed to providing high quality arts teaching at Thistly Meadow.</p> <p>Annual performance management review will include a review of the development plan.</p>

<p>7 – Transition work with local secondary schools</p>	<p>CLCC and Thistly Meadow are in regular contact. We undertake family of schools’ music, art and dance days and communicate transition information in order that children who are particularly talented and those who enjoy music are given opportunities to continue their practical music making at secondary school.</p> <p>Many peripatetic teachers work across both schools to ensure continuation and progression of instrumental players.</p>
<p>8 – Budget materials and staffing</p>	<p>The specialist teacher works every Monday at Thistly Meadow/Birkett House. Delivers practical music making across the KS2 curriculum to include all children. Also a singing session with all children in Year 1 and 2.</p> <p>WCIT from external music teachers total approx. £2K Purchase of musical instruments has taken place across many years and was funded by a combination of PTFA fundraising, donations, concert takings and school budget. Extra-curricular clubs all provided by staff for no extra cost.</p> <p>Subscription to Sing Up £320, renewed annually SingChronize – music ordered when required. Licences purchased for school performances.</p>
<p>9 – Pupil Premium and SEND provision</p>	<p>We believe that achievement in music does not rely on academic ability or social status. Indeed, we have experienced wonderful outcomes from PP and SEND pupils, some have excelled and shown talent despite struggling with academic work. We therefore offer exactly the same opportunities for all pupils. Occasionally a disabled pupil may need support to stand at an instrument, but no child has failed to benefit from engaging in musical activities.</p> <p>Where such a child shows talent or motivation to continue to play an instrument after a project has finished, we support them with this. It may be by targeting them to join a club, or to pay for small group / individual instrumental lessons or to join the Wigston band. We offer free places for PP and SEND pupils at the area choirs and Taiko group. Every vulnerable child and PP child is offered opportunities and we pride ourselves in running inclusive clubs for all.</p> <p>Naturally, some PP and SEND pupils prefer to engage in Sport or Art activities, but the offer is made regardless to ensure that no child is missed.</p>

10 – Summary Action Plan

- Mrs Turner to monitor books and check coverage of the curriculum.
- Contact Leicestershire Music regarding Song writing and Beatboxing project with year 6 with Akshay Sharma.
- Liaise with Computing lead to enable digital music to be timetabled.