

Music development plan summary for Hawridge & Cholesbury CE School

Overview:

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Becky Thorp
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Buckinghamshire Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady Music School

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.

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.

To read in more detail about of provision of music at Hawridge & Cholesbury CE School, please visit our music curriculum page [Music at Hawridge & Cholesbury](#).

Our music curriculum forms part of our aim for all children at Hawridge & Cholesbury to be FRESH, (Fascinated, Rounded, Eager to make a difference, Spiritual and Have high aspirations,) and is delivered as part of our vision for every child within the Hawridge & Cholesbury family to grow, flourish, *'have life andhave it more abundantly'*

- Music is taught in class every week and is informed by the model music curriculum (March 2021).

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- Lessons are a minimum of 40 minutes and are taught by class teachers or a music specialist from the Buckinghamshire Music Trust.
- Teaching is planned and delivered following the Charanga scheme of work. This scheme was introduced mid-way through academic year 2023-24. The tuned instruments used for this scheme are glockenspiels.
- Lessons focus on the key skills of:
 - *Listening and appraising*
 - *Exploring and creating*
 - *Singing*
 - *Sharing and performing*
 - *Playing*
 - *Composing*
- All children will come together for a weekly singing assembly. The songs in this weekly assembly are carefully chosen to reflect the Christian calendar and school values. In addition to this focussed singing assembly, daily acts of collective worship provide regular opportunities for singing.
- Children in Year 5 will learn an instrument as a whole-class ensemble taught by music specialists from the Buckinghamshire Music Trust. In the academic year 2024-25, 2023-24 2022-23 the Year 4 class of that year developed ukulele skills. Additionally, in 2024-25 year 3 played djembe drums. Each collaborative project lasts for a term and culminates in an amazing school concert where families are invited to come and enjoy their children's performance.
- Children from Year 3-6 will have the opportunity to play in a Rocksteady Band during curriculum time. Children come together in mixed age group bands and play a variety of instruments which culminates in an exciting band performance for the whole school.

Rocksteady

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.

- We will provide our children with the opportunity to listen to and respond to a wide range of music genres. We will use a planned timetable of different music genres which changes week on week. Music of the planned genre is played as early morning arrival music as well as in other planned sections of the day. Children will be supported to respond to the genre of music in the following ways:
 - *Who composed the piece of music?*

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- *How does the music make you feel?*
- *What instruments can you hear?*
- *How would you describe the tempo of the music?*
- *Clap the rhythm of the song/piece of music*
- *How does the pitch change throughout the song?*
- Year 5 and 6 children will be invited to be part of the Young Voices choir, [Young Voices](#) or the Buckinghamshire Echoes choir. In 2024, we participated in the Young Voices choir at the O2 and in 2026 we will be joining the Echoes choir at the Royal Albert Hall. The choirs rehearse for at least a term prior to the concert performances.
- In addition to these specific choirs, we will also create opportunities for choir participation throughout the year. Our KS2 Christmas choir performs as part of our annual Christmas Carol concert where all KS2 children perform traditional Christian carols to celebrate the birth of Christ. In 2023-2024, children were invited to form an anniversary choir which performed as part of our 150th anniversary celebrations.
- Music lessons with specialist teachers, (through the Buckinghamshire Music Trust) are offered to all children. In 2024-2025 children learnt the following instruments, and we plan to continue and extend this provision in 2025-2026.
 - *(Brass) Trumpet/cornet*
 - *piano*
- Lessons are promoted through school newsletters and this provision is created based on the uptake of lessons. Individual and small group lessons are funded by parents, however for those children who are Pupil Premium, these lessons can be funded by the Pupil Premium provision. We work closely with the Buckinghamshire Music Trust to ensure we can offer the best possible music opportunities for our children.
- Children who have music instrument lessons, (through Bucks Music Trust provision or privately,) will perform regularly in daily collective worship as entry and exit music.
- Rocksteady band members from years 3-6 play music together on a weekly basis. Most bands stay together for an entire academic year.
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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.

- EYFS and KS1 children will perform as a choir during the annual Nativity performances.
- KS2 will perform as a choir during the annual summer term Key Stage 2 production.
- Children sing at least one song as part of a Class Collective Worship which is performed to the whole school and families.

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- Children will sing every day in Collective Worship. The song which is learnt and practised in the weekly singing assembly is repeated during the following week so the children can participate in singing a song as an ensemble with confidence.
- We will host our annual Music Celebration concert for the whole school and families to enjoy. Musicians will be invited to perform pieces of their choice, supported by their specialist teachers from the Buckinghamshire Music Trust.
- Buckinghamshire Music Trust specialist musicians will come into school to perform a concert which showcases the learning of different instruments and gives the children to be members of an audience and appreciate different musical instruments which they may not have heard played 'live.'
- We search out for opportunities to bring other musical performances into school. In 2024, Natalie Shay, (a young female singer songwriter) performed a fabulous concert for Year 4, 5 and 6 children. In 2025, Luke McQuillan (a young male singer songwriter) then visited us following the success of Natalie Shay. We will look to build on this opportunity in 2025 2026.
- Rocksteady bands will perform a concert at the end of each term, to showcase the song they have been working on. The concert is led by the Rocksteady band leader.
- In spring 2025, year 5 had an experience morning with Vache Baroque, where they were able to play various instruments, as well as learn about the history/science surrounding music.

In the future:

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

- To extend the opportunities for the Buckinghamshire Music Trust to deliver specialist lessons for classes, expanding the range of instruments offered, to wider year groups as well as continuing the whole class music provision in Year 5.
- To search for more opportunities for our children to watch live music being performed, both in and out of school.
- To create more opportunities for KS1 children to be part of a choir ensemble.
- To evaluate the impact of the Charanga scheme, through pupil voice and lesson outcomes.