

Music Development Plan Summary 2025-26: Nicholas Hawksmoor Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	James Driver
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	NA
Name of local music hub	NMPAT
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	NA

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

At Nicholas Hawksmoor Primary School, we aim for all our children to develop a life-long love of music, in a school with a musical atmosphere through a wide range of quality musical experiences which engage and inspire them. At the heart of the music curriculum are creativity, curiosity and excitement, all aimed at developing and increasing children's self-confidence, self-esteem and collaborative skills. Music opportunities will support children's mental health and allow them to express their emotions. Children will perform, listen and analyse critically, sing, improvise, compose music and understand the musical elements as building blocks within music.

Children receive high quality music teaching, much of which is overseen and delivered by a specialist music teacher. Where music is delivered by non-specialist staff, they have training and access to on-going support from specialist practitioners. Children also receive specialist music provision from visiting peripatetic teachers from Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust (NMPAT). Our school's music curriculum is informed by the model music curriculum. Lessons are fully inclusive and all children have lessons with their class. All children are taught music for a minimum of

30 minutes a week. In addition, they have further whole school singing assemblies, giving over an hour each week to the music curriculum. During their weekly music lessons, children learn about:

- the history of music
- a variety of famous musicians and composers
- different musical genres and styles
- musical instruments from around the world
- the different ways that music has been used to reflect society, express emotion and unite people from different cultures all around the world together.

Children are taught how to play a range of different instruments as part of their lessons, including Glockenspiels, Recorders, Brass Instruments, African Drums and other percussion from around the world. All children in Y4 have the opportunity to learn a Brass instrument in the summer term. Children also have the opportunity to create their own music using technology. Children are taught to sing/play a variety of songs and sing as an ensemble, as part of their lessons. Children also take part in weekly singing assembly led by a music specialist. These focus on enjoyment and being part of a massed choir rooted in skills development. Class teachers and teaching assistants attend these assemblies, providing good models and coaching for the pupils.

Part B: Co-curricular Music

The school offers extra musical opportunities in the form of a Y6 Choir, which is well attended. They practice weekly and perform concerts at various times throughout the year, both in school and out in the community. This has included Carol Singing at local supermarkets and Residential Homes, concerts at drop-in centres, Midsummer-Music Festivals and School Gala's. Through these experiences, children are given the opportunity to discover their voices, gain confidence and create lasting memories as well as, hopefully, developing a love of singing and music.

Pupils across the school are offered opportunities to have private instrument lessons through- out the day: NMPAT deliver lessons in Piano, Brass, Woodwind, Percussion and String instruments. We have a Brass group that rehearses weekly and performs at various times throughout the year and a String group that performs at Christmas and in the Summer. We also have a guitar teacher who delivers lessons two days a week to children across all year groups.

Children in KS1 and KS2 can also attend a recorder group which runs weekly and performs at the end of each term.

Children from Y1-Y6 have the opportunity to be part of a band, playing either Bass Guitar, Guitar, Keyboards, Drums or Lead Singer. These sessions are delivered by Rocksteady Music and occur on weekly basis with concerts at the end of every term. We currently have four bands playing regular but intend to expand this to a fifth

Part C: Musical Experiences

On a weekly basis, children are engaged in whole singing assemblies with their peers and teachers. Songs are learnt from a range of musical styles and cultures.

Children learn songs for relevant times of the year, such as Harvest, Christmas and Easter. Children from Y2-Y6 take part in Harvest and Christmas services at the local church and perform a song with their year group. Children also perform songs with their Key Stage at Easter. Parents are invited to attend these concerts, giving the children an opportunity to perform in front of a public audience.

All children have the opportunity to take part in performances at Christmas in front of their families. There are three different performances: KS1 and Early Years, Y3-Y4 and Y5-Y6. Performances are based on Christmas themes and involve lots of singing and dancing.

Children in the Y6 Choir go Carol Singing around the local community, singing at residential homes and on the high-street. We hold coffee mornings where the choir perform to invited guests.

Children are taken to the theatre at various times throughout the year. Whilst not always 'Musicals', music is an integral part of these productions, whether it be songs, dances or underscore.

We have a variety of Musical Ensembles visit us throughout the year, including: orchestras from the local secondary school; Woodwind / Jazz / String groups from NMPAT; Rockkidz, who give all the children a chance to be a 'rockstar' for the day, learning songs about self-esteem.

At the end of the Summer Term we hold a Gala at the school where over 80 children perform to an audience of family, friends and invited guests.

In the future

Musical Curriculum:

We will continue to work with NMPAT to have peripatetic music specialist teachers coming into school to teach pupils instruments. While take-up of this offer is currently good, we would like to increase the number of pupils learning Woodwind, String and Percussion instruments.

Our Singing Assemblies will continue to be led by a music specialist whilst class teachers will teach music lessons using the Charanga scheme with support from music specialists.

Co-curricular Music:

We will actively encourage pupils to access NMPAT's Wednesday Music Centre, where pupils have opportunities to engage in ensemble playing and a variety of musical experiences.

We will continue to investigate ways in which we can help more pupils access instrumental lessons through NMPAT and Rocksteady Music.

Musical Experiences:

All pupils will have opportunities to perform for their parents and carers and for the whole school in concerts, celebrations and shows throughout the school year.

The Y6 choir will sing at various events in the community.

We will aim to provide opportunities for children across year groups to participate in a choir by creating a School Choir.

We will look to participate in externally organised singing events such as 'The Big Sing' or 'Voices Together'.

We will create further opportunities for instrumentalists to perform in front of their peers, family and friends throughout the year.

We hope to set up a joint instrumental group with our local secondary school, rehearsing together regularly.

We will continue to bring high quality musicians and singers into school to perform for and with the children.