

Music development plan summary: Southville Primary School overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	11.07.24
Date this summary will be reviewed	11.07.25
Name of the school music lead	Miss Sophie Munnings
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Bristol Beacon
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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 and how much time is spent teaching music.

Children receive music instruction year-round. For three terms, we have carefully chosen comprehensive units from Sing Up Music and Bristol Beacon, our local music hub. Sing Up Music units support a creative and active musical approach to lessons, connecting singing and playing, composing and improvising, listening and appraising. The Bristol Beacon Primary Music Curriculum is designed with non-specialist music teachers in mind and offers high-quality planning and resources to enhance children's singing, performing, composing, and listening skills. During these units, individual lessons last for at least 45-minutes and occur during the class teacher's planning, preparation, and assessment time (PPA).

Children also have the opportunity to learn instruments through whole-class ensemble tuition (WCET) provided by Bristol Beacon. These sessions provide a 'jumping off' point for all children to dive into instrumental learning. In Year 3, students learn the ukulele; in Year 4, the recorder; and in Year 5, the steel pans. Bristol Beacon provides the instruments, ensuring they are well-maintained and in proper working condition.

The units are delivered in 10-week blocks, culminating in performances for other year groups.

During terms where Sing Up Music and Bristol Beacon units are not used, children continue their musical learning. Teachers use Musical Moments cards which provide short, focused bursts of musical learning that are engaging and accessible. These cards can help spark curiosity, develop listening skills and broaden musical knowledge.

Children also take part in high quality regular singing assemblies in their key stages which last around 25 minutes. They are taught a wide range of songs from different genres and with a range of meanings. The musical language in these assemblies aligns with the curriculum to reinforce the knowledge and skills being developed.

Our curriculum aligns with the Model Music curriculum, ensuring a comprehensive range of musical skills are taught. It is designed to show clear progression each year, helping children develop skills in composing, improvising, appraising, notating, and singing in parts. We ensure that the interrelated dimensions of music, such as pitch and dynamics, are integrated into all lessons, providing children with a working knowledge of these elements for composing and singing.

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.

In Key Stage 2, children can learn instruments such as electric guitar, acoustic guitar, cello, keyboard, violin, drums, flute, and saxophone in either individual or group sessions. Tuition is organised and booked through Bristol Beacon, with lessons conducted in our designated music room located at our Myrtle site. Pupils entitled to Pupil Premium are eligible for free music lessons. For additional ensemble opportunities, we guide our younger musicians to Bristol Beacon ensembles, which cater to all ability levels.

Children in KS2 can also join the school choir, which performs at various events. Choir practice, including vocal warm-ups and song rehearsals, takes place after school on Mondays and is organised by the school's designated music lead, Miss Munnings.

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.

Children have numerous performance opportunities throughout their time at the school. Each year group participates in a winter carol service attended by parents and families. Year 1 creates its own winter show, while Years 3 and 4 perform at the local church, St. Paul's. Year 2 and Year 6 students rehearse and perform end-of-year shows for parents. We also participate in the Sing Up event linked to Bristol Pride, celebrating inclusivity and equity with a diverse range of songs. Singing assemblies provide additional performance opportunities, allowing year groups to share songs or instruments they have been mastering. Individual students learning instruments also showcase their progress at the start of Key Stage assemblies. We value celebrating learning and sharing talents.

In Term 2, all children attend a winter show at a local theatre, experiencing high-quality acting and singing. Throughout the year, we benefit from live-streamed performances by orchestras such as the BSO, supported by our music hub.

In the future

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

In the upcoming years, we plan to invite parents and carers to attend WCET performances for their respective year groups. In 2024/25, we aim to expand our choirs by inviting Key Stage 1 children to join a lunchtime singing group and continuing to grow our Key Stage 2 choir. Our goal for both choirs is to participate in the Beacon Summer Sing and Winter Sing alongside other schools across Bristol. Recognising the value of ensemble performance, we also aim to involve our musical instrument learners in orchestra events, allowing them to experience playing with other instruments under a professional conductor. Additionally, we hope to invite local musicians and singing groups to perform at our school, giving our children more opportunities to experience high-quality live music.

Further information

Our school's Music Development Plan is updated at the beginning of each academic year, providing the subject lead with a clear action plan to ensure that our music provision is effective and relevant for all our students. This plan also facilitates our engagement with city-wide music events.

Our music education hub, Bristol Beacon, is appointed by the DfE and Arts Council to support schools across the city. For more information on learning an instrument, joining an ensemble, or accessing further training opportunities, please visit [Bristol Beacon](#).