Music development plan summary: Ellistown Community Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Danielle Sheppard
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	
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, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

At Ellistown Primary School, music is taught weekly to all pupils through a combination of class-based lessons and whole-school singing assemblies. Children receive one hour of music each week, comprising a 30-minute classroom lesson and a 30-minute assembly led by the Music Lead.

The school follows the **Sing Up Music** scheme, which provides a progressive and engaging curriculum that covers the requirements of the Statutory National Curriculum for Music. Through this programme, pupils develop their skills in singing, listening, performing, composing and appraising music. Lessons are designed to be practical, inclusive and accessible to all learners, including those with additional needs, while also offering opportunities for greater challenge where appropriate.

In Years 3 and 4, pupils have the opportunity to learn the ukulele as part of their music education. These lessons help children develop instrumental skills, musical notation knowledge, rhythm and ensemble playing.

Music assemblies, delivered by the Music Lead, provide opportunities for pupils to sing together as a whole school and develop their confidence as performers. Children are exposed to a wide range of musical styles and genres, assemblies allow for regular opportunities to perform in front of the school.

Every year group takes part in at least one performance opportunity each year, which is shared with parents and carers. These performances provide valuable opportunities for pupils to develop confidence, teamwork and presentation skills while celebrating their musical achievements with the wider school community.

Music at Ellistown Primary School aims to foster a love of music, encourage creativity and self-expression, and ensure that all pupils leave primary school with a broad appreciation of music and performance.

Part B: Co-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.

The school is committed to ensuring that all pupils have access to high-quality musical experiences beyond classroom music lessons, enabling them to develop their skills, confidence and enjoyment of music. Through a range of extra-curricular opportunities, pupils are encouraged to engage in singing, instrumental performance and public performance, supporting progression for those who wish to develop their musical interests further.

Our after-school choir provides regular opportunities for pupils to develop their singing skills, perform as part of an ensemble and build confidence as performers. The choir rehearses weekly and performs at various events throughout the year, contributing to school celebrations and community occasions.

To support instrumental progression, specialist music teachers provide piano and guitar tuition for pupils who wish to learn an instrument. These lessons are available at an additional cost to families and offer pupils the opportunity to develop their musical

knowledge and performance skills beyond the core curriculum. Pupils receiving instrumental tuition are encouraged to share their learning through performances and school events where appropriate.

The school also recognises the importance of performing for authentic audiences. Each year, pupils participate in a performance project within the wider community. The context of this performance varies annually, providing children with a range of experiences and opportunities to showcase their musical skills beyond the school setting. These events help pupils develop confidence, resilience and an appreciation of the role music plays within the community.

Through these opportunities, pupils are provided with clear pathways for musical development beyond classroom lessons. The school aims to foster a culture where music is valued, celebrated and accessible, encouraging pupils to continue their musical journey and achieve their full potential as performers and musicians.

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.

The school also offers a KS2 choir, which is open to all pupils in Years 3 to 6 throughout the academic year. The choir provides children with regular opportunities to develop their singing skills, build confidence and perform as part of a larger ensemble. Rehearsals focus on vocal technique, musicality and performance skills, while encouraging enjoyment and a lifelong appreciation of music.

The school choir plays an important role in the local community, with pupils performing at events such as the Christmas Fayre and at the local Working Men's Club for residents of a nearby care home. These performances provide meaningful opportunities for children to share their musical talents, build confidence and develop their performance skills, while also giving back to the community and bringing enjoyment to others. Through their involvement in the choir, pupils develop teamwork, listening skills, commitment and a strong sense of pride in representing the school beyond the classroom.

In addition to choir, every year group has the opportunity to perform during the school year, with parents and carers invited to attend and celebrate pupils' musical achievements. These performance opportunities allow children to showcase their learning, gain experience of performing in front of an audience and contribute to the musical life of the school. As part of the 360 collaboration, pupils also have opportunities to participate in larger community performances alongside neighbouring schools, enabling them to experience collaborative music-making on a wider scale.

Music at Ellistown Primary School aims to foster a love of music, encourage creativity and self-expression, and ensure that all pupils leave primary school with a broad appreciation of music and performance. We actively encourage children to pursue their musical interests beyond lessons by forming their own bands and musical groups. Rehearsal space is provided during lunchtimes, and pupils are given opportunities to perform at special assemblies, talent shows and other school events. We have had some fantastic rock bands in the past, and these opportunities help to nurture confidence, teamwork and a lifelong enjoyment of music.

In the future

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

- Next year, the following is planned:

- The choir to perform to the school at the end of every term, as well as the current winter performance at the school fayre.
- Music tuition pupils to showcase what they have learnt in a special performance assembly.
- Review of how feedback is given to the children during lessons and how parents can gain insight into the learning taking place within music lessons.

Further information (optional)

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.

Leicestershire music hub offers a range of beginner music groups to help children develop their musical skills and confidence. Many groups provide free places for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium funding, and all offer a two-week free trial so that children can experience the sessions before committing.