

Music development plan summary: TEACH TRUST – AD ASTRA INFANT SCHOOL

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Rebecca Turner
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Kay Spratt
Name of local music hub	SoundStorm
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

Our Curriculum –

TEACH Trust has employed a Community and Music Performance Director who oversees the music across the Trust. She works closely with 4 music leads, who are based in each of the 4 schools in our Trust. The music director teaches all year groups for music lessons on a two-week rotating timetable, co-teaching with class teachers on a fortnightly basis, which ensures high quality provision for all pupils and helps to develop staff CPD.

We have a broad and balanced curriculum that is ambitious and inclusive. The curriculum has been written by our Music Director, stemming from the Model Music Curriculum. The curriculum progresses throughout the year, but also from year group to year group. Every year group has a new focus per half term. For additional curriculum support and resources, we also subscribe to KAPOW, Charanga and SingUp.

Curriculum music is timetabled every week. We also hold a weekly singing assembly as a whole school and use the Musician of the Month scheme to help develop the children's knowledge and love and variety of music and backgrounds.

EYFS, year 1 and 2 have a 30 minute of curriculum music per week, which, along with the singing assembly and Musician of the Month, totals an hour per week of music education.

Every year we welcome a Musician in Residence as part of our SoundStorm subscription. They meet with the music director and decide on focus points. We will be focusing on launching the Jolly Music scheme across the infant school.

Singing is a huge part of our curriculum. We sing in most lessons, either for fun or to learn new skills and develop our knowledge.

Ad Astra Infant School has a dedicated, well-equipped music room which facilitates high quality lessons.

SEND provision

Our lessons are fully inclusive and we offer a range of resources to support all levels of learning within each lesson. Instrument lessons are adjusted to suit the child's SEND requirements, such as, altered timetable, 1-1 lessons, TA present in lessons.

The music director has made action posters which are displayed in the classrooms and also available on A5 cards. They show an action for each key word with music, such as; dynamics, tempo. These are used as a 'way in' for some children. Key word cards are resourced using picture exchange communication methods as appropriate to individual needs.

Partnerships-

We pay for an annual subscription to SoundStorm, our music educational hub, and we work very closely with them and get involved in a lot of projects that they run. SoundStorm also offer continued CPD for all staff in person and through their website.

We are very fortunate to have the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra located close to our schools and we welcome them into our school to perform live music when possible.

We have set up relationships with several local nursing homes that we regularly visit to sing and perform to.

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.

Peripatetic instrument lessons

In March a contract is sent out to all parents which details the music lessons offered and how to sign up. We offer a wide range of instrument lessons in school. Toots, Doods, acoustic and electric guitar, piano, drums, keyboard and violin. These are held for 30 weeks a year and we currently have eight instrument teachers who are self-employed. The music director helps to organise the lessons and the payments are between the instrument teacher and the parent.

The children are signposted to school clubs and external clubs for involvement and progression purposes. When the children are ready, they are offered the opportunity to take grades.

Children in receipt of free school meals and those who are looked after are offered free music lessons for a year on one instrument, paid for by the school. Parents are also made aware of the Access Fund through SoundStorm that supports parents with financial difficulties.

Instrument loans

We have a supply of instruments that we offer for hire at £15 for the year. If the instruments are not available through school, we also work very closely with SoundStorm, which also offer instruments for hire at a cost.

Ensembles

The music director runs a choir that is free for the children to attend every week. In addition, teachers will run pop-up clubs across the years such as boom whackers and recorders. The ensembles perform on a variety of occasions throughout the year.

Community provision

Although it is generally for the junior school, the children are signposted to a variety of opportunities within the community if appropriate, for example Broadstone music summer school, mezzo maestros, Jurassic brass and Elevate.

Parents are regularly informed of events and clubs through letters, social media and on the school website.

Part C: Musical events and performances

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.

Internal opportunities and experiences:

Singing assembly

The whole school joins together once a week in the school hall for a singing assembly. This is led by either the music director or the music lead. On entering the room, the children listen to music from our focus Musician of the Month (MOTM). We then discuss the focus facts about the group/artist.

The MOTM runs on a 3-year cycle where the children get to learn and listen to a wide range of music, allowing them to gain a deeper and wider knowledge and experience of different genres, periods and ethnicities of music.

Each singing assembly has a focus song. This can be linked to a concert, an annual calendar event, ie Harvest or a Community focus such as friendship. The children are allowed to offer their suggestions on songs. We also subscribe to SingUp, which offers a wealth of online resources.

TEACH Trust concert

We have held four TEACH Trust concerts in the past and now run them on a 3-yearly basis. Over 500 children come together from all four schools within our Trust to perform at the main concert hall at the Lighthouse theatre in Poole. Our last concert performed to a sold-out audience of 1500.

Children from EYFS to year 6 showcased a range of musical talents, such as our samba band, bamboo bamboo group, 60 jumbie pan jammers, solos, choirs and dance routines.

Live and Inspired – As part of our local hub subscription

Every year we welcome a 'Live and Inspired concert' into our school. The whole school gather together to experience a live show. We have enjoyed a woodwind demonstration and BSO trio. This year we will be enjoying a ukulele demonstration.

Leavers Performance

Every year, all of our year 2 children prepare and perform a 'leavers' performance to guests and parents. The children all have learn some songs to perform to parents and make sure that they all leave on a real high!

Senior Citizens

Every other year we hold a 'Senior Citizens afternoon tea' for our community. The guests visit the school for an afternoon and we offer them a cream tea, whilst the children entertain them with a variety of musical acts. It is a great afternoon of inter-generational fun.

Christmas

Every Christmas, year 1 perform the nativity to parents and community guests. All children having a role with in the show. A small group of children then visits a nursing home and performs the songs to the residents.

Walt Disney wonders

Our EYFS children all dress up and learn some songs and dances based on Disney pieces. The parents come in and watch for one of their very first performances.

The Grand Ball

Another highlight is when the EYFS children all come together and perform a dance that they have learnt in their PE lessons. The highlight is when the 'prince and his beauty' arrive at the ball!!

External opportunities and experiences

We are very lucky to live very close to the home of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and some of the musicians visit us for live performances.

Our choirs regularly visit several of the local nursing homes.

SoundStorm is our musical education hub and we work alongside them via our annual subscription.

This ranges from large events, small intimate performances, financial support, online CPD, whole class instrument hire and the Musician in Residence scheme.

In the future

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

A plan is being put together to purchase a set of 16 ipads for the use across curriculum lessons. This will allow the children to extend their music technology skills.

Research is ongoing for different clubs that can be offered after school.

A plan is being put together to look into funding to facilitate musical nurture groups to support SEND provision.