

Music Development Plan Summary 2026–27

Oak Hill First School

Academic year: 2026–27

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Music education network: CRST Music Leads

Our Ambition for Music

At Oak Hill, we want every child to see themselves as a musician.

We want children to experience the enjoyment of singing, playing, listening, composing and performing together, while building the knowledge, skills and confidence to continue their musical journey beyond Oak Hill.

Our music provision brings together curriculum music, wider musical opportunities and musical experiences. Through these, we aim to give every child positive and meaningful experiences of music.

Curriculum Music

Children’s musical journey begins in Nursery and Reception, where music is part of everyday learning through songs, rhymes, movement, listening, performance and opportunities to explore sounds and instruments.

From Year 1 to Year 4, we use the CUSP Music curriculum to provide a carefully sequenced journey through music. Children develop their knowledge and skills through:

- singing
- playing tuned and untuned instruments
- listening and responding
- composing and improvising
- performing

Children progressively develop their understanding of important musical elements including pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, texture and timbre.

Learning is revisited and built upon as children move through school. This helps children make connections with previous learning and use their developing musical knowledge with increasing confidence and independence.

Music has planned curriculum coverage across the year, ensuring children experience the breadth of the music curriculum and that learning builds progressively from Nursery to Year 4.

Our Music Statement and Music Long-Term Sequence provide further information about what children learn as they progress through Oak Hill.

Music for Every Child

We believe music is for every child.

We want all children, including those with SEND and those who may experience other barriers to participation, to be able to take part successfully in music.

Teachers adapt teaching, resources and musical experiences where needed so that children can participate, develop their skills and experience success.

We recognise that children may have different starting points and different opportunities to experience music outside school. Our curriculum gives every child opportunities to sing, play, listen, create and perform.

Wider Musical Opportunities

Music at Oak Hill extends beyond curriculum learning.

Singing is an important part of school life. Children from Reception to Year 4 come together regularly to sing, helping them to develop their repertoire, musical skills and confidence in making music with others.

Children also have opportunities to develop their interests through wider activities such as choir and performing arts, alongside other musical opportunities that may be offered during the year.

We will continue to explore opportunities for children who develop a particular interest or talent in music to extend their musical experiences.

Musical Experiences

We want children to experience music both as performers and as an audience.

Across their time at Oak Hill, children have opportunities to perform to others. These may include:

- Christmas and seasonal performances
- class and year-group performances
- assemblies and celebrations
- our Year 4 leavers' performance

- community events
- Trust-wide events and celebrations

We also want children to experience music performed by others. We will continue to develop opportunities for children to encounter live music and to hear different musicians, instruments, genres, traditions and styles.

Partnerships

We recognise that working with others can help us strengthen and broaden the musical experiences available to our children.

We work closely with CRST Music Leads and the local Pyramid, sharing expertise, developing practice and exploring opportunities for children across the Trust.

During 2026–27, we will continue to develop partnerships that can support and extend our music provision, including opportunities for instrumental learning, performance and experiencing live music.

Our Priorities for 2026–27

During 2026–27, we will focus on:

1. Embedding our curriculum

Continue to embed CUSP Music so that teaching is well sequenced and children build secure musical knowledge and skills from their Early Years foundations through to Year 4.

2. Strengthening progression

Ensure staff are confident about what children have learned previously, what they are learning now and how this prepares them for their next stage.

3. Developing singing

Continue to strengthen singing as an important part of school life, giving children opportunities to sing together and develop confidence as performers.

4. Broadening musical experiences

Increase children's exposure to a range of musical genres, traditions, instruments, musicians and styles.

5. Developing live music opportunities

Seek further opportunities for children to experience live musical performance, both within school and through external opportunities.

6. Developing instrumental opportunities

Explore realistic and sustainable opportunities to extend access to instrumental learning and wider musical participation for children who wish to develop their interests further.

7. Ensuring music is for everyone

Continue to identify and remove barriers to participation so that children with SEND and children who may have fewer opportunities to experience music outside school can participate fully in Oak Hill's musical life.

8. Working in partnership

Continue to work with CRST Music Leads and explore appropriate external partnerships that can strengthen the musical opportunities and experiences available to our children.

Reviewing Our Plan

The Music Subject Lead will review the development of music across the year, considering the quality of curriculum implementation, children's experiences and outcomes, staff confidence and the range of wider musical opportunities available.

The plan will be reviewed during the summer term 2027 and the published summary updated for the following academic year.

Looking Ahead

We want music at Oak Hill to continue to grow.

Our aim is not simply for children to know more about music. We want them to experience music, make music and enjoy music.

By the time children leave Oak Hill, we want them to have strong musical foundations, positive memories of making music together and the confidence and curiosity to continue exploring music as they move on to the next stage of their education.