

Music development plan summary: Newburgh Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/2026
Date this summary was published	24/10/2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	
Name of the school music lead	Mark Porter
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Heart of England Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Warwickshire Music

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 Newburgh Primary, we aim for every child to experience a rich and varied musical education through both high-quality lessons and extra-curricular opportunities. By listening, singing, playing, analysing, and composing across a wide range of historical periods, styles, traditions, and genres, our children develop self-confidence, critical engagement with music, and an appreciation of diverse musical forms.

Each week, the whole school gathers for a singing assembly to celebrate music and nurture a shared sense of community. It is our goal that every child receives at least one hour of quality music education per week.

This year, Newburgh is following the Kapow Primary Music Scheme alongside lessons delivered by external specialist teachers from Warwick: A Singing Town, who will be working with Years 2 and 4.

Early Years and Key Stage 1

Reception

Music is delivered by our highly experienced HLTA, who has been a key part of the school's musical life for many years. Lessons include learning about orchestral instruments and their sounds, practising and performing seasonal and story-based songs, exploring picture notation, and composing simple rhythmic patterns.

Year 1

Music, also delivered by our experienced HLTA, will explore pulse, tempo, dynamics, sound patterns, pitch, and musical symbols through engaging themes such as Superheroes and Under the Sea.

Years 2 & 4

Music is taught by specialist teachers from Warwick: A Singing Town during fortnightly visits. Two choral entrepreneurs will work alongside class teachers to deliver high-quality sessions that build towards large group singing opportunities, with up to four classes participating together.

Between visits, class teachers will continue musical learning with provided resources, including percussive instrument work, to ensure continuity and progression.

The Warwick team will lead themed programmes throughout the year — My Voice, Our Song, and Our Community — culminating in events and performances. Year 4 will also work towards a Summer Term performance of The Magic Flute. This consistent, collaborative approach supports both staff development and meaningful musical growth for pupils.

Key Stage 2

Year 3

Class teachers will deliver Kapow lessons exploring Ballads and Jazz, improvisation and composition, vocal techniques, and traditional instruments from around the world, including those from India.

Year 5

Music will be taught by a musically experienced class teacher. Children will explore Musical Theatre and Blues, compose music inspired by the Holi Festival of Colour, study the music of South and West Africa, and later in the year experiment with looping and remixing.

Year 6

Pupils will study wartime music from World War II, understanding its cultural importance and role in morale. They will explore dynamics, pitch, and texture through Fingal's Cave by Mendelssohn, study Film Music, and investigate Themes and Variations before moving on to the Baroque period. In the Summer Term, they will compose and perform their own leavers' song and take part in the end-of-year musical production.

Whole School and Resources

Alongside class-based lessons, pupils participate in weekly singing assemblies, delivered alternately by the school music lead and representatives from Warwick: A Singing Town.

Music lessons take place in our dedicated music room, equipped with a range of tuned and untuned instruments. Tuned instruments include ukuleles, recorders, glockenspiels, and keyboards, while untuned options include drums, congas, maracas, cymbals, woodblocks, and triangles.

Our curriculum is shaped by the Model Music Curriculum and informed by the non-statutory National Curriculum guidance.

Music at Newburgh also extends beyond the music room. Singing is embedded across the curriculum — in French to reinforce language learning, and in subjects such as History and Geography to help children memorise key facts and concepts.

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.

At Newburgh Primary, we are proud to have a thriving school choir made up of children from Years 3 to 6. The choir is free to join and is led by the school's music subject lead alongside an experienced HLTA. We are also fortunate to have the support of a local pianist with close ties to the school, who kindly volunteers their time to accompany and rehearse with the choir.

To encourage greater participation, especially among boys, the girls' and boys' choirs rehearse separately for most sessions. However, they learn some shared repertoire and come together for joint performances throughout the year.

Choir members have the opportunity to perform at a range of local events, including community celebrations at the railway station and festive performances at a local care

home. We also continue to seek additional opportunities where our pupils can share their music, connect with the community, and represent the school with pride.

In addition to choir, peripatetic music teachers offer children the chance to learn a variety of instruments, including guitar, keyboard, violin, cello, flute, and clarinet. These lessons take place in our dedicated music room. While tuition is paid for by parents, children receiving Pupil Premium funding are supported through fully funded small-group lessons, ensuring all pupils have access to instrumental learning.

Throughout the year, the school holds a number of musical events, including Harvest, Christmas, and Easter performances, where children from all year groups can experience performing before an audience. The year concludes with our highly anticipated Year 6 end-of-year musical production, to which families from across the school are invited. Past productions have included Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Oliver! and Mary Poppins.

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.

At Newburgh Primary School, children take part in weekly singing assemblies, led alternately by the school's internal music leaders and external specialists from Warwick: A Singing Town. These assemblies give pupils the opportunity to sing together as a whole school community, build confidence, and celebrate music through shared performance.

Throughout the year, pupils also perform in a range of celebration assemblies, including Harvest, Christmas, Easter, and end-of-year events, where they showcase their learning and musical development.

Our Year 6 pupils lead the way at the end of the academic year by planning, rehearsing, and performing a musical production for parents and the wider community — a much-loved highlight of the school calendar.

All pupils enjoy live professional music through visits from the Orchestra of the Swan. During their first visit in the Autumn Term, orchestra members perform for the whole school and collaborate with our singers. Their second visit in the Spring Term includes a workshop for pupils who are learning instruments, offering a unique opportunity to work directly with professional musicians.

The school choir also takes part in community outreach, including performing for residents at a local care home during the festive season.

Finally, during the Autumn Term, pupils from Years 1 to 6 attend the local pantomime at the Leamington Spa Centre, an annual tradition that fosters a love of live performance and enriches their cultural experience.

In the future

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

Moving forward, Newburgh Primary School aims to build upon the strong foundation of music provision already in place and to take advantage of new opportunities that will further enrich our children's experience of music and performance.

Through our partnership with Music Mark, we are connecting with a network of thousands of music education professionals and organisations across the country. This collaboration provides an exciting opportunity to share and celebrate our work, as well as to explore new ways to enhance our school's musical offer.

We will continue to provide timetabled curriculum music lessons for every class, ensuring that all pupils receive at least one hour of quality music teaching each week.

Recognising the importance of community connections, we will further develop our school choirs, seeking additional performance opportunities both locally and beyond. Building on our successful collaboration with the Orchestra of the Swan, we aim to explore the potential for creating a school orchestra and to encourage the formation of bands or music groups that reflect the children's own interests and creativity.

We also plan to offer dedicated rehearsal and practice spaces for children learning instruments, supporting them in developing their skills and confidence.

Our programme of termly and event-based performances will continue, complemented by additional opportunities such as dedicated 'Music Days' within the school calendar.

Finally, we are committed to ensuring that every child has the chance to experience live music performances at least once each year — with the aim of expanding these opportunities even further in the future.

Further information

Please follow the link below to access a Department for Education published guide on how to get involved in music in and out of school. Here you will also find out more about where you can go for support beyond the school.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people>

Please follow the links below for more information about local music hubs and industry partnerships:

The Arts Council: <https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/MusicEducationHubs#section-1>

Warwickshire Music: <https://www.warwickshiremusichub.org/heart-of-england-music>

Music Mark: <https://www.musicmark.org.uk/>