

Music development plan summary: Elmhurst Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	30 June 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	30 June 2025
Name of the school music lead	Tara Cowley
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Katharine Young
Name of local music hub	Newham Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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 Elmhurst, we believe music embraces our individuality, creativity and most importantly, our self-expression. Music is shaped around our whole school intent as it encourages oracy, independence and gives our children rich experiences. Every child should have the opportunity to develop their musical potential and we aim to nurture this across the school. Our music curriculum is working within the national curriculum ensuring that every child has a music education and is exposed to the importance and to the joy of music.

We have developed our own music curriculum with the help of music programmes to inform our planning. As lessons are taught, they are continually adapted to encourage progression of our pupils as well as the teaching needs of our teachers. We provide team-teaching and INSET training to help our teachers develop.

Our music curriculum has three main elements: listening, performance and notation. Units focussing on these music fundamentals are planned for each year group, with small building blocks ensuring consolidation and progression. Listening is woven

throughout the curriculum and children will listen to a wide variety of music during their time at Elmhurst. They become active listeners as they start to identify different musical elements (pitch, dynamic, timbre, texture, and rhythm), instruments, styles and composers. This greater- depth listening will inform the children's own compositions.

The children will have the opportunities to compose music in different ways across key stages, including using music technology. The performance element is developed across year groups, from performance within class to assemblies, to school showcases and productions.

In KS1 children have access to a wide range of untuned instruments, even at this early stage they will be using graphic notation to record their compositions. In KS2 all children have the opportunity for instrumental lessons. Starting with the recorder in year 3, the glockenspiel in year 4, small group flute or clarinet in year 5 and finally the keyboard in year 6. During these lessons the children learn to read basic notation.

For pupils with special educational needs, music can be a wonderful and accessible experience for them. We have seen that music therapy is invaluable so we offer this for our most vulnerable pupils. There is also a small group weekly instrumental lesson for SEND children. Children with SEND respond well to sound and music as it gives them a way to express themselves which they may not otherwise have.

As well as time tabled music lessons covering the national curriculum, we aim to go above and beyond this and create a culture of music at Elmhurst. We provide our children with extra music opportunities. KS2 children are offered fully subsidised small group instrumental tuition in the clarinet and flute. These children will work towards their music medal exams in their chosen instrument. The school choir meets every week and performs for special events throughout the year. The choir also spreads the joy of music to our wider community through public performances.

We work closely with music specialists and centres of music excellence such as Newham Music, the London Symphony Orchestra, the Barbican as well as others to ensure that our children are getting a wonderfully rich musical experience throughout their school years.

Part B: Extra curricular music:beyond the core curriculum

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.

We work with our local music hub, Newham Music, to provide small group tuition in flute and clarinet to year 4, 5 and 6 pupils. These children have the opportunity to complete their bronze and silver music medals, beginning their journey of formal qualifications in music. These lessons are offered fully subsidised by the school, including the loan of the instrument for the duration of the pupils tuition. Children who are learning instruments are encouraged to bring their instruments to curriculum music

lessons to enhance their compositions. Children have the opportunity to perform in school shows and assemblies.

A weekly choir club runs for KS2 children in school. This is a fully inclusive choir that all children can join without auditions. They learn to sing in harmony parts through singing a wide variety of musical genres, they are also encouraged to bring suggestions of material to the choir for everyone to learn. Children build their confidence singing in school shows and assemblies.

Part C: Musical Events and Performance

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.

- Two concerts in the school theatre featuring the choir and instrumental tuition students.
- The choir sings at the local Christmas light switch on for the public and members of the local council
- Weekly singing assemblies for all key stages run by the music coordinator
- Annual MAT wide music event

In the future

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

- We would like to begin instrumental tuition for year 4 pupils so they have a solid foundation in music before secondary school
- We plan to engage local secondary school children to come and perform in our theatre to inspire our children
- Develop engagement of boys across the MAT
- Instrumental collaboration across the Trust