

Music development plan summary: Holmer Green First School and Pre-School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026/2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	Sept 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Tallulah Gomes
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Buckinghamshire Music Trust
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.

From Reception through to Year 2, each class enjoys a lively and engaging weekly music lesson lasting between 30–45 minutes. We follow the Sparkyard scheme, published by *Out of the Ark*, which is packed with joyful, high-quality content and places a strong emphasis on singing. The scheme closely aligns with the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021) and takes a skills-based approach, meaning children revisit and build on key musical concepts as they progress through the year groups.

As a school, we truly value the power of singing - not just as a learning tool, but also as a way to support children's emotional, social, and physical wellbeing. Lessons take place in the classroom and offer plenty of hands-on opportunities for children to explore both tuned and untuned percussion instruments. They're encouraged to express themselves musically, creating and performing pieces individually, in small groups, and as a whole class.

In addition to class lessons, we come together for a weekly 15-minute singing assembly, where the whole school joins in to sing, rehearse, and celebrate music together.

These sessions are a joyful way to reinforce key musical skills and foster a strong sense of community through shared performance.

The children in Year 2 take part in a sequence of violin lessons throughout the summer term, developing their skills and confidence as they learn to play. They then perform to their parents, sharing what they have learnt, celebrating their hard work and progress.

Our Pre-School and Reception outdoor area and the school playground also features music walls, which the children absolutely love exploring. These provide wonderful opportunities for children to experiment with sound, rhythm and volume, using a mixture of musical instruments and everyday objects such as pots and pans. Through this hands-on play, children can explore and create their own music while developing their confidence, creativity and enjoyment of making sounds.

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.

Music is buzzing with excitement beyond the classroom too!

The children also take part in Drumba numerous times throughout the week. Drumba is a cross-curricular PE activity that combines aerobic movement, rhythm and drumming. The children follow high-energy routines, beating drums to the sound of music while developing their coordination, rhythm, fitness and listening skills.

For those who love to sing, our KS1 Choir meets during the lunch break and is open to all keen vocalists. The children learn a wide variety of songs and enjoy performing in school assemblies, at local community events, and even for the residents at Cherry Garth Residential Home, a lovely way to spread joy through music.

We're also proud to work in partnership with the Bucks Music Trust, which gives families access to a wide range of instrumental lessons and ensemble opportunities outside of the school day. They also visit our school to perform with their orchestras, providing the children with opportunities to experience live music.

We also welcome Children's Music Academy into school. More recently, they visited to introduce the children to the harp. They bring a range of different instruments for the children to learn about, listen to and, where possible, have a go at playing. These experiences help to broaden the children's understanding and appreciation of different instruments and styles of music.

A wide range of musical genres and styles are played as children enter and leave assemblies, providing regular opportunities to listen to and experience a broad range of music. Where appropriate, the title of the piece and the composer or artist are shared with the children, helping to broaden their musical knowledge and cultural awareness.

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 our school, we believe in giving every child the chance to shine and performing is a wonderful way to build confidence, creativity, and a love of learning. Throughout the year, there are lots of exciting opportunities for children to share their talents with others.

Each class from Reception to Year 2 creates a special assembly once a year, based on their learning theme, which they perform for the rest of the school and their families—always a highlight! In the autumn term, Pre-School and Reception take part in fantastic dance and music workshops led by West End in Schools, bringing a bit of theatre magic into the classroom.

Christmas is a truly special time in school. Year 2 lead a joyful Christmas songs and carols concert, while Year 1 and Reception perform a heart warming Nativity play, and Pre-School delight us all with their own festive Christmas musical.

Each year, as part of our World Book Day celebrations, we welcome the talented team from Image Musical Theatre, who provide an immersive theatre experience. The children join in by learning songs and, for a lucky few, even taking on roles as characters on stage, it's an unforgettable day full of fun and imagination!

Our love of performance extends beyond the school gates too. The KS1 Choir proudly represents the school by performing at local events such as Christmas on the Common and Summer on the Common in Holmer Green - wonderful opportunities to sing for the community and spread some musical cheer.

In the future

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

Looking ahead, we're really excited to continue expanding the children's experience of live music throughout the coming year. Our school choir will be starting up again for the new academic year, giving the children another wonderful opportunity to develop their confidence, singing skills and enjoyment of performing together.

We're also delighted that Chiltern Music Academy will be returning to perform for the children. Their visits provide a fantastic opportunity to experience a range of instruments and musical styles up close and to be inspired by live performances.

Alongside these opportunities, Drumba will continue to be a firm favourite! The children love the energy, rhythm and fun of drumming along to music, and we look forward to keeping this as a regular part of their week.

The Recorder Club will also be starting up for Year 2 this year, giving the children another exciting opportunity to learn a new instrument, develop their musical skills and build confidence as young musicians.

Our aim is to continue filling the school with music, giving every child the opportunity to listen, sing, perform, explore instruments and, most importantly, have fun making music together.

Further information

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.

Bucks Music Trust can offer both individual and ensemble tuition from early years to year 2. Find out more information at www.bucksmusic.org.