

Music development plan summary: Thorpepark Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	October 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Gemma Prendergast
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	Hull Music Service
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.

Thorpepark Academy

In order to provide the children at Thorpepark with experiences to express themselves musically and creatively, we aim to teach them a broad and balanced music curriculum. At Thorpepark Academy, we teach music in accordance with the Charanga Music Scheme. Reception are following the Original Scheme and Years 1-6 are following the Model Music Curriculum. This ensures that the music aims for the National Curriculum are being taught. Music is an inclusive subject. All pupils are required to participate in music activities. All activities planned for are adapted to ensure that all pupils have access to the music learning objective and curriculum. SEND pupils are required to join in with music activities and planning, delivery and assessment reflects this.

In EYFS, music is the centre of the majority of learning where children learn through listening, participating and reacting to nursery rhymes. Reception children are taught music as a discrete, weekly lesson using the Original Scheme from Charanga. In this they learn to move their bodies in time to the music, learn to sing songs and begin to develop basic subject-based vocabulary through sharing opinions about pieces of music that they hear. The opportunities and experiences offered in EYFS are designed carefully using assessment steps from Development Matters and are planned to meet the needs and interests of all children.

The children at Thorpepark have the opportunity to learn how to play untuned instruments and three tuned focus instruments. The chosen focus instruments ensure a progression of skills and musical ability; the instruments have been recommended by Charanga. The aim is for each pupil to leave Thorpepark with the ability, confidence and skills needed to play these focus instruments.

The focus instruments are:

- FS2: untuned instruments
- Year 1 and 2: untuned instruments and resonator bells
- Year 3 and 4: glockenspiels
- Year 5: glockenspiels and keyboards
- Year 6: keyboards

Music is taught weekly to ensure that skills can be practiced and progression across the subject can be made; music is taught in a half an hour slot for reception pupils and an hour slot for Year 1 – Year 6 pupils.

To provide our children with an engaging and creative curriculum we teach music through:

- A carefully designed whole school curriculum which builds on and adds to the children's music knowledge and skills.
- Sequential progression within each year group.
- Music knowledge and skills progression maps incorporate the music elements that run through all half termly Charanga unit allowing knowledge and skills to be built upon:
 - Listen and appraise
 - Musical dimensions
 - Singing
 - Playing an instrument
 - Improvisation
 - Composition
 - Performance

As part of the `Wider Opportunities` scheme offered from Hull Music Service, children in Years 3, 4 and 5 learn to play the glockenspiels. A specialist teacher from Hull Music Service comes into school once a week, for 1 hour to work with the children. The main focuses for these lessons are instrumental technique and understanding notation. Hull Music Service work with each year group for one term. The pupils are always thoroughly engaged in these lessons, and it is a fantastic opportunity for them to really develop their musical knowledge and ability.

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.

Thorpepark Academy encourages children who are more able and gifted in music by arranging for tuition (small group or individual) and we provide this with samba and violin lessons. Children are taught once a week by a specialist tutor from Hull Music Service. There is no charge for this tuition. Children having extra tuition sessions enjoy performing to the rest of the school on a regular basis to showcase their new skills and techniques.

Last year the children in Year 3 took part in a 10 week programme called Choral Hull with Hull Music Service. The children had 10 weekly sessions of singing with a leading choral practitioner for one hour. There was no charge for the singing tuition. The pupils learnt a range of songs to develop their singing skills. At the end of the project the children performed at Hull Minster to three other primary schools in Hull and to parents and carers.

Children in Year 5 perform in an end of year Music event at the Connexin Live Hull Arena to demonstrate their instrumental and vocal training throughout the year. This is done with other schools from the city and gives children an opportunity to see a variety of instruments played by other children. Pupils attend this for free, with parents asked to pay for tickets to attend the performance.

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.

Pupils take part in a weekly singing assembly. The composer singing assembly spine outlines the tracks, sources and themes that are covered half termly. The composers chosen provides a basis for a theme or discussion point for a particular point of the year, such as Easter or voting, and are from a range of sources and styles.

Pupils at Thorpepark are exposed daily to different genres of music. Different styles and genres of music are played in the background when children enter whole school assemblies. This allows the pupils at Thorpepark to have exposure to a range of musical genres such as: brass bands, classical music and different music from around the world.

Thorpepark Academy liaises with Hull Music Service to provide children with live music experiences. We book a live experience each term and it lasts for an hour. Live experiences that we have booked for this school year are: Brass concert, Strings concert and Rock Ready concert which is an interactive performance showcasing rock band instruments and how the sound and style have changed over the decades. We are fortunate to have had many exciting visitors into our school. Rocksteady came in and performed and delivered music sessions to our pupils in both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

It is vital that the children are given the opportunity to showcase their efforts and talents. Children are encouraged to perform at the end of every half term of their music unit with an increasing audience throughout the year.

Pupils have the opportunity across the school year to sing and perform in front of the rest of the school and to their parents/carers. This includes Christmas nativities and carol concerts, performances linked to year group curriculum topics and a Year 6 leavers performance. Pupils also learn songs during the Autumn Term which are sung at the Harvest Festival celebration at the local church which is led by the local vicar.

All of the pupils at Thorpepark have the opportunity to watch a live pantomime at the end of the Autumn term. The pantomime visit is an annual event at Thorpepark and the children thoroughly enjoy being part of the audience.

In the future

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

- Introduction of a wider range of instruments on offer for small group or individual lessons.
- Further develop performance opportunities for our young musicians throughout the school year.
- Develop a school choir/ vocal ensemble.

Further information (optional)