

Music Development Plan Summary: Prior's Mill CE Primary School



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miss Jones
Name of local music hub	Tees Valley
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 Prior's Mill, Music is taught across the school. All children in Years 1-6 receive music tuition each week.

This academic year we will use an adapted version of the Charanga Music Scheme. Our scheme of work fulfils the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum (2014). The National Curriculum for Music aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians
- Learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

The intention of the curriculum is to help children to develop a life-long love of music. We focus on developing skills, knowledge and understanding that children need to become performers, composers and listeners. Children will develop their musical skills of singing, playing both tuned and un-tuned instruments, improvising and composing music, and listening and responding to music. Charanga lessons are planned in sequences to provide children with the opportunity to review, remember, deepen and apply their understanding.

‘Musician of the Month’ allows children in Prior’s Mill to explore the work of a different Musician every month. Each week the children will engage in several activities which explore the work of the chosen Musician including knowledge about their background and what they became famous for. Not only does this allow children to evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, but it also enhances our cultural capital.

There are also lots of opportunities for children to perform and learn to use their voices through school assemblies throughout the year and school Nativity. The children are required to rehearse and thereafter, perform in front of their families and/ or friends.

Implementation:

In accordance with the National Curriculum, we ensure that coverage of knowledge and skills is developed sequentially throughout the school. We cover one full unit throughout Spring term whereby children will engage with the unit weekly. We take a holistic approach to Music, in which the individual strands below are combined to enrich learning experiences and enrich their imagination:

- Performing
- Listening
- Composing
- The history of music/ different musicians
- Cross-curricular links

Lesson delivery:

At the start of each unit/ lesson the children will be given a clear learning objective. They will engage in an introduction starter which may retrieve prior knowledge or assess their learning needs. The children will then be exposed to their new learning. Over the course of a unit, the lessons taught will include performance, composition and appraisal/ constructive criticism.

Music in EYFS:

Music in EYFS is a vital area of learning embedded within 'Expressive Arts and Design' whereby children can explore and play with a wide range of media and materials, and discuss what they hear, respond to and observe.

Adaptation:

At Prior's Mill we acknowledge that all children have widely different musical abilities. Therefore, we ensure that we provide suitable learning opportunities for the children and offer the correct level of challenge based on the ability of the child.

SEND:

We strive to remove barriers to learning for pupils with SEND. By adopting a proactive and inclusive approach, children can express themselves and take an active part in lessons.

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 Priors Mill we have lots of opportunities for children to develop their skills in Music. We have worship assemblies performed by the children where they sing a wide range of songs. The children take part with much enthusiasm. They also perform various songs and explore their voices as part of their nativity performances each year. Appraisal of music takes place weekly whereby each class will explore a range of music performed by a musician. The children thoroughly enjoy this as they can engage in a range of activities including quizzes to assess their knowledge. Throughout the year, children also enjoy singing within class assemblies lead by teachers, or even themselves. Children at Priors Mill have a lot of opportunities to perform. Parents/ families are very supportive of music making and we have a very good turn-out at productions.

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.

In addition to planned curriculum time for music, we also offer additional musical experiences which occur throughout the school year. Across all key stages, children have a range of opportunities to experience live musical theatre performances. They also take part in musical performances such as Christmas nativities and class worships. Dress rehearsals are a beneficial part of this experience, as other year groups are often invited to appraise/ offer constructive advice.

Our year 6 students participate in an end-of-year production, performing in front of a large audience. This enhances their musical experiences alongside children who observe.

Visitors are also valued when enhancing the children's music experiences. Different visitors who work in a local church often visit Prior's Mill. They deliver exciting worships which often incorporate a range of music.

Opportunities are used for musical experiences through a range of subjects to enable children to view music in life and academic contexts e.g. PE, History and Geography.

Importantly, music is incorporated into a variety of activities and events within school, such as daily worships, singing assemblies, Musician of the Month, classroom routines, and celebrations.

Overall, our provision is diverse which values all musical genres, styles and traditions. This is reflected by the children's outcomes in music development.

In the future

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

CPD – planned CPD opportunities for classroom teachers to increase confidence in delivering music in the classroom.

Change/ adaptation of music curriculum – we will explore different schemes of music to evaluate whether the staff/ children would benefit from a different pedagogy.

Take part in TVMS events – contact TVMS to see what support they may offer for staff/ children.

Collaborate with trusts and other schools – gain a deeper insight into how other schools approach the teaching of Music.