Music Development Plan Summary
Mapperley Plains Primary and Nursery School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026/27
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Helen Maddison
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music	Paul Summers, Headteacher
Name of local music hub	Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Music Hub, led by Inspire
Name of other music education organisations	Music for Everyone; DCP Drums; independent visiting instrumental teachers

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.

Curriculum design. Mapperley Plains has a music curriculum designed by the music specialist, supported by Sing Up particularly in EYFS and KS1. Progression documents are in place so children build musical knowledge and skills over time. As the school moves to mixed-age classes in 2026/27, the curriculum sequence will be reviewed and mapped against the statutory National Curriculum for Music at Key Stages 1 and 2 and the EYFS educational programme, with clear end points for performing, composing and listening.

Our published curriculum information, including Music, is available on the school curriculum page.

Curriculum time. Music is taught by a specialist teacher as part of PPA provision. KS1 and KS2 classes currently receive a 60-minute specialist music lesson twice in each three-week PPA cycle, alongside a 30-minute weekly singing session led by the music specialist. During Autumn 2026, the school will review how this timetabled provision aligns with the National Plan for Music Education ambition of at least one hour of curriculum music each week and make any necessary curriculum or timetable adjustments.

EYFS. Children receive 30 minutes of specialist music each week, focused on singing, movement, listening and classroom percussion. Class teachers provide an additional weekly session involving singing and percussion. From September 2026, the F2 team will extend class-teacher-led music so musical development is reinforced through the wider EYFS curriculum.

Instrumental learning. In KS1, children sing and use untuned and tuned percussion, including glockenspiels, with Year 2 learning recorder in the summer term. Years 3 and 4 receive whole-class violin tuition with the music lead. Children can continue violin in smaller groups in Years 5 and 6, while UKS2 also uses keyboards, samba percussion and music technology. Year 4 children take part in the Now Hear This whole-class ensemble concert at the Royal Concert Hall through the Music Hub.

Singing. All children from F1 to Year 6 take part in a weekly 30-minute singing session in phases, led by the music specialist, and children also sing within curriculum music lessons. During 2026/27, the school will strengthen staff participation and review how singing contributes to the planned curriculum sequence.

Music technology. Music technology is currently strongest in UKS2, where children use GarageBand on iPads for songwriting and explore loops through age-appropriate digital tools. The school will review where technology can strengthen progression in other key stages without displacing core performing, composing and listening.

Assessment and progression. Assessment is ongoing and formative. The music lead considers children's developing knowledge and skills against lesson intentions and progression expectations, using teacher records and audio or video evidence where appropriate. Assessment is used to inform subsequent teaching.

Inclusion. The music lead adapts provision for individual needs, including physical adaptations such as left-handed violin playing. The school has identified that some children with SEND have not always accessed music consistently where additional adult support is required and that interventions have sometimes overlapped with music lessons. Improving access is a priority for 2026/27. From September, intervention and support arrangements will be reviewed so children are not routinely withdrawn from planned music and reasonable adjustments are identified with class teachers and the SENCO.

Representation and cultural breadth. Songs, listening repertoire and Musician of the Month introduce children to music from a range of languages, countries, cultures, genres and historical periods. Where appropriate, links are made to protected characteristics and children encounter music beyond the cultures represented within the school community.

Curriculum partnerships. The Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Music Hub supports opportunities including Now Hear This and loans additional instruments for this event. UKS2 have also accessed Hub projects such as MusiQuest. The school will continue to use Hub support where it strengthens curriculum development, live music and progression routes.

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.

Instrumental tuition. The school works with independent visiting instrumental teachers who provide drumming, guitar/ukulele and violin lessons. Parents pay the instrumental teachers directly and retention is currently high. DCP Drums supports recruitment through workshops and concerts, while violin continuation is promoted towards the end of the Year 4 whole-class ensemble programme. The school will also review parental interest in keyboard tuition.

Charging and equitable access. Choir and school-led recorder ensembles are free of charge. The school will confirm that its published charging and remissions information accurately reflects the direct-to-parent instrumental tuition arrangements. Participation in paid instrumental tuition by disadvantaged children is currently lower than the school would like, so participation will be reviewed termly and financial, practical or access barriers addressed where possible.

Choir and vocal provision. A choir for Years 4 to 6 runs at lunchtime, led by the music lead, and children can join throughout the year. The choir performs at Young Voices, Parry Court at Christmas, the Mapperley Christmas Lights Switch-on, the school Celebration Afternoon Tea and school music concerts.

Recorder groups. Two recorder clubs are run free of charge by the music lead, one after school and one at lunchtime. The beginner club is open to children from Year 3 upwards and the advanced after-school club is by invitation. Recorder groups perform at Parry Court and in the school music concert.

Progression beyond school. Children making strong progress are signposted to opportunities such as Stringwise, Music for Everyone courses and other suitable weekend or ensemble provision. The school will continue to explore accessible local progression routes because some existing opportunities are geographically difficult for families to reach.

Rehearsal and practice space. Choir and recorder groups rehearse in classrooms. Instrumental tuition takes place in the Learning Base where possible because it provides a suitable larger space with presentation and audio facilities.

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.

Regular musical experiences. Weekly phase singing is a regular part of school life from F1 to Year 6. Children also hear live music in school through piano in singing sessions and demonstrations by the music specialist.

Performances and shows. EYFS and KS1 perform a Nativity or Christmas production each year. KS2 performs a musical show in the summer term and children also perform in the annual school music

concert. Choir and recorder groups perform at school events and in the local community. During 2026/27, the school will plan at least one music performance or sharing opportunity each term.

Live and external music. Year 4 attend Now Hear This at the Royal Concert Hall and experience the Hallé orchestra. The school choir attends Young Voices, where children sing with a large-scale ensemble and hear a live band and professional vocalists. KS1 children attend a drum concert and children also attend a pantomime with a live band. The school will use visiting musicians and Music Hub opportunities to work towards every child experiencing live professional music during the academic year.

Costs and access. Where musical trips or enrichment activities involve a cost, arrangements are managed in line with the school's charging and remissions policies. Participation will be monitored so financial hardship does not unnecessarily restrict access.

In the future

Priorities for 2026/27. The priorities focus on the areas identified through the school's review of current provision.

Priority 1. To strengthen curriculum progression across the new mixed-age structure, ensuring that music is clearly sequenced across Y1/2, Y3/4 and Y5/6 and reviewing curriculum time against the National Plan ambition for at least one hour of curriculum music each week.

Priority 2. To improve equitable access and participation in music, particularly for children with SEND and disadvantaged children, so that children are not routinely withdrawn from music and barriers to instrumental tuition, ensembles and enrichment are identified and reduced.

Priority 3. To broaden musical experiences and progression beyond the classroom, including regular opportunities to perform, experience live professional music and access further musical opportunities through the Music Hub, Music for Everyone and other local partners.

Longer-term development. The school will continue to review and develop its music provision, strengthen local partnerships and provide clear progression routes for children who wish to develop their musical interests further.

Further information

Leadership and evaluation. Helen Maddison is the Music Lead and specialist PPA music teacher. The Music Lead works with school leaders on curriculum development and provision. Progress against the priorities in this summary will be reviewed during the year and key outcomes will be reported to governors.

Partnerships. The school works with the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Music Hub, led by Inspire, and has links with Music for Everyone, DCP Drums and independent visiting instrumental teachers.

Children also access opportunities including Young Voices and Stringwise. Developing stronger local school partnerships is a priority for 2026/27.

Key documents. This summary should be read alongside the school's music curriculum and progression information, Music Policy, Charging Policy and Remissions Policy. The school will use the statutory National Curriculum for Music and the National Plan for Music Education when reviewing provision during 2026/27.

National Plan for Music Education: The Power of Music to Change Lives

Local Music Hub: Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Music Hub