

Music development plan summary: Beech Hill School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/2026
Date this summary was published	05.09.24
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Laura Haigh
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Calderdale Music Hub
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.

At Beech Hill music is taught weekly by the class teacher. In addition to timetabled music lessons, the children have weekly music assemblies. In these assemblies, high quality recorded music from BBC's 40 pieces for example, is listened to and appraised and the children are given large ensemble singing opportunities. Music is also listened to throughout the school day when appropriate. Teachers select music suggested from the Model Music Curriculum or music that links to their curriculum topics.

Early Years

In early years, music aspects of the children's work are related to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs), as outlined in Development Matters. These underpin the curriculum planning for children aged three to five. Musically, they need to be able to sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs, perform songs, rhymes, poems and stories with others, and – when appropriate – try to move in time

with music. From this the Early Years Leader and Music Leader created a progression document and long and medium-term plans for Nursery.

Reception to Year 6

At Beech Hill, the Kapow Music Scheme is used from reception to year 5 as it is a spiral curriculum designed by music specialists which ensures children return to the same skills and knowledge repeatedly, recapping and building on prior knowledge. In addition to this, the Kapow whole class instrumental scheme is used in year 4 for a term to provide the children with the opportunity to learn how to play the glockenspiel. In their final year at Beech Hill, the children have one hour per week of whole class tuition for the clarinet with a music specialist from the Calderdale Music Trust.

The children's musical learning journey is evidenced through videos and key learning is shared with parents through Seesaw. Pre and post assessments are completed for each unit of the Kapow scheme from years 1-5.

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.

There are many opportunities for the children to develop their cultural capital through music at Beech Hill. There are afterschool and lunchtime clubs such as sing and sign, KS2 choir who take part in Voices Together, nasheed choir and even a 25 piece school orchestra! All afterschool music opportunities are provided free of charge.

As a school, we work closely with a local music charity, 'Music for the Many,' who provide small group music tuition and run the school orchestra free of charge. They also provide instruments for the children to use. This is a fantastic opportunity for our Key Stage 2 children to learn from professional musicians and play in an ensemble. Our children are also given the opportunity to work towards and take ABRSM exams. In 2023/2024, 5 children were awarded grade 1, 4 of which passed with merit!

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.

The school orchestra performs in school and beyond whenever there is an opportunity. In 2024/2025, they performed multiple times in school to the children and the wider community. They also played at Halifax Central Library as part of the Valley of Sanctuary celebration and played at The Family of Learning Trust music concert at the Halifax Minster along with the school Nasheed choir.

Children in Key Stage 2 will be given the opportunity to be part of Voices Together at the Victoria Theatre this academic year.

We grasp any opportunities for the children to attend professional music concerts and to perform with professional musicians. In 2024/2025, our year 4 children worked alongside the English Chamber Orchestra and Three Stones Media in the Little People Big Noise project which culminated in a performance that the year 4 and 5 children attended at the Victoria Theatre. In past years, the children in KS2 have attended the school proms at the Victoria Theatre. The Calderdale Music Trust staff have been in to sing to the children.

In year 6, our children have the opportunity to be part of the leavers' performance. This is a truly spectacular event every year! They sing in unison, in different parts and many of the children also sing solos! Last year, they performed a spectacular version of Peter Pan. In 2023/2024, the children performed Disney's Lion King and in 2022/2023 Beauty and the Beast. They perform to the whole school, to parents and the wider community.

In 2024/25, the children from the orchestra and Nasheed Choir performed at the Family of Learning Trust music concert at the Halifax Minster,

In the future

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

- Introduce music in the OPAL scheme.
- Termly music performance for children to showcase key learning from the music curriculum.
- Continue to develop links within the Family of Learning Trust to provide more music opportunities for the children.