

Music development plan summary: Newlands Primary Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	26/1/26
Date this summary will be reviewed	Autumn 1 2026
Name of the school music lead	Jen Thornton
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Hampshire Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Southern Music Project

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, as the school grows. 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

At Newlands Primary Academy, our aim is to ensure that every child experiences a rich, inclusive, and joyful music curriculum that supports creativity, wellbeing, self-expression, and cultural development.

We are committed to:

- Providing high-quality classroom music for all pupils for at least one hour a week.
- Ensuring progression in listening, singing, performing, composing, and musical understanding.
- Offering access to a wide range of musical experiences, including live performances, workshops, and opportunities to perform in front of an audience.

- Ensuring that pupils with SEND and complex needs can participate fully in music through adapted resources, sensory approaches, and personalised support.

All pupils receive regular class-based music lessons focused on:

- Singing and rhyme
- Instrumental skills
- Listening and appraising
- Composing and improvising

Staff use a combination of practical music-making, vocal work, and ensemble activities to ensure full engagement.

For pupils with SEND, adaptations include sensory instruments, simplified notation, repetition and echo-based learning, and physical accessibility adjustments.

Part B: Co-curricular music

As Newlands Primary Academy is currently open only to EYFS pupils, formal instrumental tuition is not yet offered. At this early stage of the school's growth, our focus is on establishing a strong foundation in musical exploration through singing, rhythm, movement, and early musicianship suited to our youngest learners.

However, as the school expands year-on-year, we are committed to developing a full instrumental offer for older pupils. From 2026 onwards, we plan to introduce structured instrumental lessons delivered by specialist tutors, ensuring that children have access to high-quality, progressive musical opportunities as they move through the school.

Part C: Musical experiences

At Newlands Primary Academy, we place high value on creating rich and memorable musical experiences for all pupils. Throughout the year, children take

part in a vibrant range of activities that develop their confidence, creativity and enjoyment of music.

Our pupils enjoy annual opportunities to watch live theatre, including attending a professional pantomime performance of Aladdin in 2025 and an immersive storytelling experience with OpenBox Theatre in 2026, giving them first-hand exposure to music, storytelling and performance at a high level.

Children also participate in our much-loved Nativity production, performed twice to accommodate performance to a local care home. This includes singing, simple instrumentation, and expressive storytelling, allowing even our youngest learners to shine on stage.

In addition, we hold termly assemblies that always include a musical performance element—from group singing to rhythm work and class showcases—ensuring pupils have regular opportunities to share their learning and develop confidence performing in front of others.

Together, these experiences will help embed a strong musical culture across the school, supporting pupils' artistic development and building a love of performing from an early age.

In the future

As the school grows, there will be further musical experiences such as engagement with the Waterloo Church performances and when KS2 is in school, there is intention to attend large scale events such as the Big Sing at the O2 and the charity performance at the Royal Albert Hall.

The school will start after school clubs from September 2026 and this will include musical opportunities for our pupils.