Cranborne
CE First School

Music Development Plan Summary

Detail information Academic Year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of school music lead	Annette Faithfull
Name of SLT member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Dorset Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisation (if relevant)	

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

We teach music weekly in each mixed-age class, with lessons lasting for 45 minutes alongside a weekly singing collective worship. Our class teachers are experts in adapting our curriculum to meet the needs of children with additional needs and/or disabilities, and these bespoke adaptations ensure that music can be enjoyed by all. Our music curriculum is informed by the national and model music curriculum, delivered via schemes of work written by Charanga. We ensure that our children experience music, musicians and instruments from other cultures and countries as part of our curriculum offer. We provide opportunities for children to learn musical instruments along with regular performances. We access specialist instrumental teaching for our key stage 2 pupils and benefit from a specialist music teacher who supports the children's singing for key performances during the school year (Harvest, Christmas and Easter). More information about our music curriculum can be found on our school website.

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.

We have a suite of musical instruments that are used by each class within our units of music teaching. We offer whole class Samba lessons with a specialist music teacher. We are supportive of all children studying for formal gradings with the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music. We signpost children to live music opportunities within the local area. Our pupil premium grant and funding for LAC is targeted and spent on a bespoke basis which includes, where requested, funding lessons or instrumental hire for children wanting to access such. We benefit from a local music teacher who leads an early morning singing club for our children, providing the opportunity to learn new songs and enjoy the experience of singing as a choir. The children then teach these songs to the rest of the school in singing worship and complement our singing with harmonies.

Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in collective worship, concerts, nativities, iSingPOP experiences across the Trust in Year 4 and shows, and trips to professional concerts. All children take part in a weekly singing worship. We create a nativity performance that our nursery, reception and key stage one children participate in and a Carol service that our key stage 2 children lead. In addition, we enjoy singing as a whole school in church for key Christian festivals such as Harvest, Christmas and Easter. The children are able to engage in an after-school music club that leads towards a performance for the school and for parents/carers. All performances put on by ourselves are free of charge for parents and carers.

Staff participate in regular music development in staff meetings led either by our specialist music teacher who leads music clubs in school or musicians from the Dorset Music Service.

In the future

We use Charanga as our vehicle to support our music curriculum, but we endeavour to use a personalised approach to make the learning bespoke to the needs of each class. Training and upskilling staff is a vital part of this journey, ensuring staff are confident in their ability to teach each aspect of the music curriculum and inducting new teachers.

At Cranborne we recognise that music Is a powerful tool and, used effectively, can enable children to shine and flourish musically, as well as socially, emotionally and spiritually, as such we aim to continually develop our understanding of how music can make a difference and what we, the educators, need to do to ensure the best possible musical provision.