

Music development plan summary 2026-27: Newtown CofE Primary School



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	November 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	November 2027
Name of the school music lead	Jennifer Wade
Name of local music hub	Hampshire Music Service

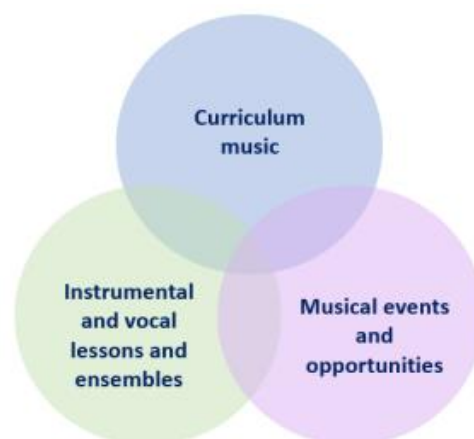
This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

Our Vision

At Newtown we aim to engage and inspire children to develop a lifelong love of music

- We aim to provide a curriculum that is practical where children learn about composing their own music.
- We aim to provide children with **high quality musical experiences**, where creating music has a purpose, is celebrated and aspirations and expectations are high.
- We aim to produce a curriculum that develops children's musical skills or **performing, composing and listening** through a sequence of progressive units of work. Allowing children to progress and flourish to the next level of musical excellence.
- At Newtown we aim to ensure that there are no barriers to participation and learning. We allow all children to experience the joys of creating music, in addition to supporting children's wider development, well-being and emotional health.

This is achieved through a combination of our curriculum and co-curricular provision, and the musical events and opportunities that we offer the children.



Part A: Curriculum music

This is about what we teach in lesson time and how much of that time is spent teaching music.

By the end of Year 6 all children should:

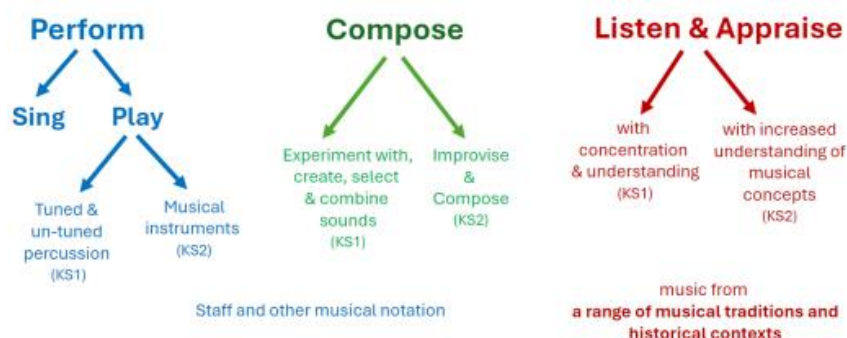
- Be able to sing with **accurate pitch** in unison or harmony, with attention or phrase and dynamics.
- Be cable of playing a simple melody on an instrument as part of an ensemble, and to learn it from staff notation.
- Experience a range of music from **different cultures, traditions and contexts**.
- Be able to **respond to and discuss** music using appropriate musical vocabulary whilst showing an understanding of the musical elements.
- Increasingly enjoying both their music lesson and participation in the **wider musical life of the school**.

Delivery & Overview:

At Newtown, the music curriculum is taught through fortnightly 60-minute class music lessons for every child. In KS1 and KS2, this is delivered by high skilled practitioners. The Early Years music curriculum is delivered by EYFS staff through direct teaching and continuous provision. We have a large space for additional music lessons which is well resourced with a range of musical instruments.

Curriculum Design:

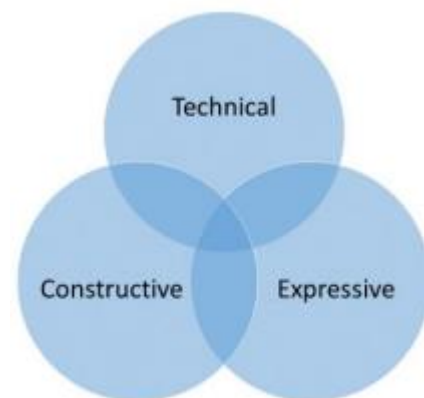
We deliver a carefully planned sequence of learning which builds clear progression (see curriculum map and progressive skills development overview). This sequence of learning is based on the Model Music Curriculum and builds on children's ability to perform, compose, listen and understand music.



The musical elements (pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure) form the core to children's musical knowledge and understanding. In Early Years and KS1, this begins with developing children's musicianship in controlling beat, rhythm and pitch. As children move up the school, a series of practical and creative activities provide the opportunity to explore the musical elements further. Children learn how to both manipulate and control these elements, and make connections between them.

Pillars of Progression:

Our curriculum supports children's development in the technical, constructive and expressive components of music. Children learn the technical skills of controlling sound and using staff notation. They explore how music is constructed through learning about the musical elements and the components of composition. They also explore musical quality, creativity and musical meaning through learning about the expressive aspect of music.



Performance:

The learning environment at Newtown is one of practical music creating. Singing is an integral part of the curriculum with weekly whole school singing collective worships led by the music lead. Children are also all given the chance to develop their technical control of an instrument. At Newtown this starts in the classroom on tuned and untuned percussion, and leads to developing keyboard skills, as well as experiencing other more traditional instruments as part of the Hampshire Music Service provision and in the co-curricular offer of instrumental lessons provided by Rocky Steady.

Composition:

Children are encouraged to be creative in their music making, with regular opportunities in lessons to improvise and compose. Technical aspects of composition are explicitly taught, allowing children to make creative and informed decisions about their music making within these structures or scaffolds, and to gain a better understanding of how music is constructed.

Listening:

Pupils are provided with quality and active listening opportunities, which are embedded within the curriculum and provide a sense of context and purpose for their learning. Through this, children are also exposed to a range of musical culture, history and tradition.

Notation and Technology:

Throughout their time at Newtown, children build an understanding of musical notation to support their musical learning, beginning with simple graphic notation and symbols, and building progressively towards reading and using staff notation in KS2. We also use technology appropriately as a vehicle for the development of musical understanding.

Planning & Assessment:

Planning is flexible and responds to children's needs. Activities are adapted to ensure that children with SEND can participate and progress, as well as providing challenge to children through carefully planned activities, questions and differentiated tasks and musical parts. Assessment is responsive and immediate, providing in the moment feedback and checking whether children are ready to move onto the

next stage in their learning. At key points in the school year, we also assess whether children are meeting age-related expectations, as well as reviewing the effectiveness of our whole music curriculum.

Part B: Co-Curricular Music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music outside of lesson time, and how pupils can make progress beyond the core curriculum.

We provide a breadth of musical opportunities that are not just confined to the classroom but span much of school life, where children's musical learning is supported and furthered outside of class curriculum lessons.

Instrumental lessons:

All children in KS1 and KS2 are offered instrumental lessons.

Children can learn the following instruments:

- Percussion (drum kit, tuned percussion)
- Guitar
- Piano & Keyboard
- Singing

Lessons are provided by Rock Steady specialist teachers and are taught in pairs or small groups for 30 minutes each week. Lessons cost £31.25 per month and provide children with the opportunity to perform in whole school concerts at the end of each term.

Ensembles:

We run a School Makaton Choir, where children can deepen and extend their musical learning and gain valuable musical experiences of making music together. This is a mixed choir of KS1-KS1 children, who rehearse after school for an hour every week. The children are given the opportunity to perform at Fratton Park, Portsmouth FC and Gunwharf Quays. Our Makaton Choir also regularly play in our school church services and local Church Christingle services. At certain points in the year we run a School Choir at lunchtimes, and we run weekly whole school singing Collective Worship, where all children develop their vocal skills and experience the joy of singing together.

Productions:

We believe that singing and musical theatre is an excellent tool for musical engagement and participation from all children. One of the highlights of our school year is our Year 6 Production, where children put on a collaborative performance at the end of the summer term. At Newtown every child takes a place on the stage to perform. This is rehearsed during lesson time. Past performances have included: *Peter Pan* and *The Lion King*.

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.

Partnerships

We work in partnership with other organisations to excite and invigorate music making and musical experiences for the pupils. For example, we work closely with Rock Steady, who provide a supportive and enthusiastic team of instrumental teachers. The Hampshire Music Hub also support the professional development and training of our school staff. Hampshire Music Service provide individual instrumental lessons, as well as Year 4 ukulele lessons. We have strong musical links with St Vincent's College and Curtain Call Productions who provide free workshops and performances to the children.

Concerts & Performances

We believe that children are motivated by performance opportunities. Our music curriculum is therefore designed so that children's learning has a clear and meaningful purpose, with performances and memorable musical experiences built into every unit of work. Beyond the curriculum, we put on regular performances and concerts throughout the school year, providing platforms to celebrate and share children's achievements. All children regularly perform in class collective worship and church services throughout the year. Key Stage 1 lead an annual Nativity performance, allowing our wider school community to come together to share the Christmas story through song, music and prayer. Our annual Year 6 Production is a popular event attended by the whole school community over multiple performances. Our school Makaton choir annually sing at Fratton Park, Portsmouth FC. Children make visits to perform at the local Care Home and perform at our Christmas and Summer Fayres.

Concerts & Live Music

Children have the opportunity to hear quality live music, for example St Vincent College regularly bring ensembles to Christchurch to perform. We are also developing stronger links with Curtain Call Productions who bring a touring version of their pantomime to our school.

Children's Wider Development

At Newtown, music is integrated in all its forms throughout school life and supports children's wider development. Music is an important part of the spiritual experiences for children. Children actively participate in school collective worship singing and using music as a tool for reflection, worship and prayer. Music supports and invigorates learning in all areas of the curriculum, as well as being a tool to aid transitions and support well-being and emotional health. Through music children also develop their physical coordination, resilience and perseverance. Children build community, confidence and self-esteem, as well as learning the joys and discipline of working with a common collaborative purpose.

Pupil and Parent Voice

We regularly consider our pupil voice when developing our music provision, through pupil conferencing and by evaluating the numbers participating in the musical life of the school. Parents are supportive and positive about the musical life of the school, several of whom accompany and helping to rehearse the children. It is evident from this that music is enjoyed and valued by all at Newtown, and that children's confidence and competence in making music is strong.

In the future

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

- We plan to put on a collaborative event this year with other local cluster schools, giving our children a meaningful performance opportunity and to support progression and continuity up to secondary school.
- We are also looking to create stronger links within the wider community to facilitate further performance opportunities for our children.

Further information

- Contact Hampshire Music Hub for more information on local and county instrumental ensembles, choirs and events, instrumental hire and lots more!
- <https://hantsmusic hub.org.uk/>
- Contact Jen Wade if you are interested in getting involved in music in school: j.wade@newtown.hants.sch.uk
- Following the release of the new National Plan for Music, read the DfE's guide for parents and young people: What the national plan for music education means for children and young people
[What the national plan for music education means for children and young people - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-the-national-plan-for-music-education-means-for-children-and-young-people)