

Music Development Plan: The Wells Free School

Overview

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 the school music lead who is also a member of the leadership team	Miss Rae Akehurst
Name of local music hub	Kent & Medway
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Andrew Parry Music Time for Music Rock Steady Music Plink Plonk Harp

This is a summary of how The Wells Free School delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas:

- Curriculum music
- Music tuition, choirs and ensembles
- Musical experiences

It also outlines 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.

Vision for Music

Music encourages children to develop their innate creativity through a subject which is multi-sensory. It crosses the boundaries of other forms of communication and allows all children to explore their creativity, express themselves and to shine. At The Wells Free School, we want children to be able to sing, play a musical instrument and create music together. To enable this to happen, we want to ensure that we are offering all elements of the National Music Plan's high-quality music provision list as below.

Values

The Wells Free School is an inclusive school which aims to ensure all pupils have access to the best possible education, and where the happiness, safety and wellbeing of all individuals, matter. We believe that all members of our school community have a right to succeed, and the entitlement to develop their full potential. We are committed to ensuring all pupils have access to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum which aims to prepare them for life outside school, and which is designed to meet each individual's specific needs.

Equal Opportunities Statement

We are committed to the promotion of equality and equity and an understanding of individual rights and responsibilities. We will ensure that all members of our school community have equal access to the education provided by our school. We celebrate the different experiences all members of the school community bring to our school, and recognise that these experiences, interests and strengths affect the ways in which people learn. We aim to harness this diversity to enable all members of our school community to thrive and enjoy their time at our school.

Disability Statement

The Wells Free School is proud to be an inclusive school. We offer access to a broad and balanced curriculum for all pupils regardless of disability. We strive to ensure all pupils can access, educationally and physically, all learning opportunities within and beyond the school.

We aim to ensure that all users can access key learning areas and will ensure that no user experiences any discrimination or reduced entitlement to learning due to being unable to physically access areas of the school. As with any additional needs the school works closely with parents and appropriate outside agencies to ensure equality of access for all.

Nurture UK

The school have been working and training closely with Nurture UK and are hoping to become a Nurture UK accredited school in 2024. As such, we share the vision that:

- 1) Child development is not limited by lack of nurture in education
- 2) Adults working with and caring for our children are supported and equipped with evidence-based tools to help them flourish and learn

Nurture as a practice means relating to and coaching children and young people to help them form positive relationships, build resilience and improve their social, emotional and mental health and wellbeing. As a school we consistently implement the six principles of nurture:

- 1) Children's learning is understood developmentally
- 2) The classroom offers a safe base
- 3) The importance of nurture for the development of wellbeing
- 4) Language is a vital means of communication
- 5) All behaviour is communication

6) The importance of transition in children's lives

These six principles help staff to focus on the social and emotional needs and development of our children, ensuring all children are ready to learn.

Music at The Wells Free School is taught using the Charanga Music Scheme that is a progressive curriculum based upon the Model Music Curriculum. Year 4 have weekly Ukelele lessons and the whole school take part in a weekly singing assembly. Identified children with SEND have weekly group music and movement sessions.

Links to our music curriculum can be found on our long-term overviews:

[Reception Learning](#)

[Year 1 Learning](#)

[Year 2 Learning](#)

[Year 3 Learning](#)

[Year 4 Learning](#)

[Year 5 Learning](#)

[Year 6 Learning](#)

Part B: Music tuition, choirs and ensembles.

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 an established school choir that regularly perform locally as well as taking part in the O2 Young Voices and the Tunbridge Wells Primary Schools Singing Festival at the Assembly Hall Theatre bi-annually.

Small group and 1:1 instrumental lessons are embedded in the school and are run by Rock Steady, Time for Music and Plink Plonk Harp covering keyboard, drums, guitar, harp and piano. Children eligible for Pupil Premium can receive subsidised lessons. Please come speak to a member of the senior leadership team if this is of interest

As part of the curriculum every child in year 4 learns to play the ukulele. We subsidise lessons for pupil premium children and in exceptional circumstances will pay for them in their totality. Choir is chargeable at £25 per seasonal term with pupil premium children receiving a subsidised place. Choir is delivered by Andrew Parry Music.

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.

In 2025-2026 TWFS choir took part in The Tunbridge Wells Singing Festival at The Assembly Halls with the intention of participating in 2027-20287 as this is a biannual event.

Within the 2025-2026 academic year 29 pupils received music tuition in school hours. 32 children received Music Plus Tuition. A further 6 children play an instrument outside of school. With one working towards music exams.

Within the 2026-2027 academic year TWFS will be taking part in the following experiences:

- Whole school weekly singing assembly delivered by Andrew Parry Music
- Whole school music performance assemblies once a month- open to all children who wish to perform and sign up.
- Young Voices at The O2 open to children in Years 2-6
- EYFS and Year 1 Nativity
- Year 2-6 Carol Concert
- Trips to Trinity Theatre including the annual whole school Christmas show. This year it is Elf the Musical
- Choir performances at Local Care Homes and Cripps
- Year 6 end of year production
- Sing2Save in Autumn term.

In the future

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

In the future The Wells Free School plans on

- Broadening the range of music experiences
- Strengthen children's confidence in using classroom instruments.
- Giving children the opportunity to perform more
- Invest in Teacher CPD to grow confidence in the delivery of the music curriculum

Further information

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Our local music hub is Kent Music: <https://www.kent-music.com/>