

Music development plan summary: Lime Academy Abbotsmede

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Lizzy Burge
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Michele McCartney
Name of local music hub	Peterborough Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Key Theatre (Landmark Theatres)

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 Lime Academy Abbotsmede we follow CUSP Music (Curriculum with Unity Schools Partnership).

CUSP Music has been purposefully built around the principles of evidence-led practice. This is to ensure that there is a focus on high-quality development of children as musicians. The curriculum is carefully designed to build pupils' musical knowledge and develop their competency and confidence as musicians. Each block includes the study of significant musicians and musical works, with the intention of exposing pupils to a wide range of music that will inspire them and connect them to the world around them. The curriculum is built to support non-specialist teachers in developing their own subject knowledge and delivering excellence in music education.

Core areas of study include singing, listening and appraising, composing and improvising and instrumental performance. These are built cumulatively throughout the curriculum to

ensure that all pupils develop their engagement with, and knowledge of, music over time. This includes a focus on learning to play a range of instruments confidently. CUSP Music aims to build a strong and rich musical culture in schools, in which pupils can thrive.

As with all CUSP subjects, CUSP Music has a strong emphasis on the language that pupils need to explore their own musicality. This is carefully and deliberately planned so that pupils revisit and embed this knowledge over time. Clear structures and learning routines underpin CUSP Music. This allows pupils (and teachers) to direct their cognitive attention to the core content in each block.

This strong focus on cognitive science provides the framework for pupils to deepen and broaden their knowledge of music and become confident, inspired musicians.

Reasonable adjustments for pupils with SEND

As part of the planning and preparation for the delivery of each block, teachers consider how specific activities or pedagogy may need to be adjusted to ensure that pupils with SEND are able to access the materials and participate fully in the lesson.

Pupils with language and communication difficulties (including those with ASD) may have additional visual prompts to help them understand what is expected of them. Some pupils may have individual task boards to enable them to follow a series of steps where a task has been broken down into smaller, more manageable chunks.

Some pupils who have a hearing impairment. Teachers will think carefully about how this impacts their ability to hear and produce sounds and will best to adapt the Music lessons to ensure these pupils can be successful.

Some pupils who have a visual impairment. This may impact their ability to read and follow musical notation. Teachers will think carefully about how they can adapt these lessons, possibly including the use of technology, to ensure that these pupils can access the same high-quality curriculum experience.

For some pupils who have specific challenges around processing, some of the lessons may require adaptation to ensure that all pupils can participate fully in the lesson. This may mean reducing the number of instructions or steps in a task, introducing the use of a reader for lessons with a reading element (including lyrics), or any other adaptations specific to the pupils in the class.

How is CUSP Music organised?

CUSP Music is taught from Years 1 – 6. Each year group has 6 blocks of 5 weeks teaching. Additional weeks in the academic year can be used for consolidation, revisiting or enrichment. The curriculum is designed to be delivered in 45 – 60-minute lessons, depending on the age of pupils and stage of learning. As a school, teacher's can choose how to organise this time within their timetable, for example, teachers may choose to

deliver one CUSP Music lesson over two shorter blocks of time. Across the year, each year group will focus on developing singing, playing a range of untuned and tuned instruments and building their knowledge about music. Pupils will build their knowledge and musical skills year on year, becoming more expert in playing and appraising a wide range of musical styles.

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Reference lesson	Knowledge about music	Becoming a musician	Knowledge about music	Becoming a musician

Peterborough Music Hub

As a school we work closely with Peterborough Music Hub. Our children in Year 4 all have the opportunity to participate in weekly violin tuition with a specialist teacher provided by the Peterborough Music Hub.

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.

Whole-class ensemble teaching

As a school we offer whole class violin ensemble teaching, this is provided by a experienced music teacher through the Peterborough Music Hub. This is weekly and runs throughout the academic year.

Music performances

Each year group performs a class performance during the academic year. These performances include singing and using percussion.

There are opportunities for children who have learnt an instrument within school as part of WCIT performing with a tuned instrument.

There is a school choir who meet regularly and perform at key points during the academic year. The choir have performed in the local community.

We have a whole school carol concert on the playground which is very well attended by parents.

Reception children perform a Christmas Nativity to their peers and families.

The local reverend leads a Christingle service for the whole school which include carols.

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.

Landmark Theatres

Children in Key Stage 2 have the opportunity to watch the pantomime at the Key Theatre.

The whole school access weekly singing assembly where they learn and rehearse a song or group of songs, often linked to the curriculum or a current theme. Listening to music and developing a feel for rhythm.

In the future

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

Peterborough Music Hub

In the future we wish to develop the links further with the music hub to offer a wider range of tuned instrument music lessons, both for individuals and for the whole class ensemble.

In school music teaching

As a school we wish to continue to develop the expertise of the members of staff in school through their continued professional development by providing opportunities for members of staff to develop their musical talents, this will then provide additional music lessons and expertise within the school community to widen the music curriculum.

Free Music lessons

As a school we would like to offer an afterschool club for KS1 children who would like to learn the keyboard. The opportunity to grow and develop the school choir.

Musical Experience

As a school we would like to take part in Peterborough Sings and Young Voices.

Further information

The Department for Education has 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](#) should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.

[Peterborough Music Hub](#)