

Music development plan

Kingsnorth CofE Primary School



‘Every child should receive a great music education. Learning about music and having the opportunity to play musical instruments and make music together is a vital part of a rich and rounded education. Music plays a key role in brain development. It helps to develop language, motor skills, emotional intelligence and collaboration skills’ (Department for Education, 2024)

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	25/26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Rachel Field
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Kent Music Hub (Ashford)
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady

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 Kingsnorth, we love music and consider it a universal, creative language. We believe that music is an integral part of human expression and creativity and, as such, we have a role to play in exposing our pupils to a rich, high-quality music curriculum. We wish to grow our children's musicality throughout their time at Kingsnorth through a sequenced, progressive curriculum that focuses on practical experiences to grow musicianship in order to ensure we are offering opportunities for children to reach their full potential. We believe singing to be a 'golden thread'. We want to offer every pupil the opportunity to experience, as an audience member, live music at different points of the academic year.

All pupils have one whole class music lesson per week. This follows a curriculum based on the music scheme, Music Express, which supports the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021). Pupils develop a wide range of musical skills including listening and appraising, composition, improvisation, musical notation and instrumental playing.

All pupils have the opportunity to sing during music lessons and once a week in a whole school singing assembly, led by Mrs Field. In Key Stage 2, pupils have access to an optional choir once a week. Other opportunities to sing are encouraged and have been seen within Maths and other foundation subjects, as a means to embed new knowledge.

In order to ensure accessibility for all, the use of resourcing is carefully considered:

- A wide variety of cultures, religions and traditions are represented through musical choices to reflect our diverse community;
- Diverse range of musicians and musical figures included within discussion and teaching;
- Consideration of loud noise and the affect it could have on pupils, use ear defenders or positioning in class (nearer sides or front) to minimise disruption;
- Ensure that all pupils have access to instruments.
- All pupils at Kingsnorth have the opportunity to learn an instrument throughout their time at the school, at various points, as part of classroom teaching and the music curriculum.

In Year 4, all pupils learn to play the ukulele through Music Plus, provided by Kent Music. These lessons, delivered by a specialist music teacher, provides pupils with a high-quality and engaging introduction to instrumental learning. Through structured, progressive teaching, children develop fundamental skills such as rhythm, coordination, and ensemble playing, while also building confidence and musical understanding. The opportunity to perform allows pupils to showcase their progress, fostering a sense of

achievement and pride, and strengthening their ability to collaborate and communicate as part of a group.

EYFS

Music plays a vital role in supporting children's communication, language, and physical development. Through singing, movement, and the exploration of instruments, children develop a sense of rhythm, listening skills, and self-expression in a playful and inclusive environment. Carefully planned musical experiences encourage creativity, imagination, and confidence, while also promoting social interaction and cooperation. All children in Reception take part in the Nativity performance, providing a valuable opportunity to develop performance skills, build confidence, and experience the joy of sharing music with an audience. By embedding music into daily routines and continuous provision, children build strong foundations for future musical learning.

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.

In addition to the music curriculum, pupils may take the opportunity to learn an instrument through access to Rocksteady. Pupils can choose from the drums, keyboard, guitar, bass guitar or singing. They take part in weekly ensemble lessons and have opportunities throughout the year to perform in a concert. Kingsnorth is committed to ensuring that music education is accessible to all pupils by offering funded and bursary-supported places for instrumental lessons. This inclusive approach removes financial barriers, enabling every child to participate, develop their musical potential, and benefit from high-quality tuition regardless of their background.

Kent Music provides opportunities for pupils to learn to play the piano. They take part in weekly individual lessons with a specialist teacher and perform in a concert at the end of the year.

Kingsnorth's in school choir is an after school, free extra-curricular group providing a safe space for pupils to explore singing, performance and expression. During the school year, the choir will take part in many local events such as, Carols Under the Tree, singing at the local nursing home and at the Christmas and Summer fayres. Every year, the choir also takes part in Young Voices, performing in the world's largest school choir concerts.

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.

At Kingsnorth, pupils have the opportunity to partake in or listen to a range of musical experiences:

- **EYFS Nativity** – Performed to the wider school community and parents, this event gives Reception pupils their first experience of structured performance, combining singing, actions, and storytelling.
- **Year 2 Harvest Festival** – Shared with both the school and parents, pupils present a range of harvest-themed songs and spoken elements, developing their vocal skills, awareness of seasonal traditions, and ability to perform as part of a group.
- **Year 3 Assembly (Recorder Showcase)** – Pupils perform to an audience to demonstrate their learning on the recorder, highlighting progress in note reading, technique, and ensemble playing.
- **Year 4 Easter Celebration** – This performance incorporates both singing and instrumental playing, allowing pupils to demonstrate their growing musical skills through a varied programme while developing ensemble awareness and musical expression. Year 4 also showcase their learning of the ukuleles to the school in a celebration assembly.
- **Year 6 Musical Production** – A large-scale end-of-year performance for the whole school and parents, involving singing, acting, and often choreography, which provides pupils with the opportunity to apply their musical skills in a creative context and celebrate their time in primary school.

- Weekly whole school singing assemblies.
- Pupils who have weekly music lessons perform to the school and their parents.
- Pupils are encouraged to perform during school assemblies should they wish.
- The whole school have the opportunity to watch a professional pantomime.

In the future

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

At Kingsnorth, we are always looking for ways to improve the outcomes of our children and ensure progression in our lessons. Therefore, an audit of the current Music Express scheme will be carried out.

Kingsnorth will be seeking further opportunities for pupils to attend musical concerts or live performances to enhance their musical education and nurture a deeper appreciation for artistic expression.

We will continue to develop music provision by working closely with the local Music Hub to provide high-quality CPD opportunities for all staff. This will support teachers in developing their subject knowledge, confidence, and pedagogical skills in music, ensuring that all pupils receive a consistent and enriching musical education across the school.

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.

You can find out more information about music in schools through our [music hub](#). Here, you will find a range of resources, information and guidance on schools' musical learning journeys with Kent.