Music development plan summary:
Withington Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	October 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 2027
Name of the school music lead	Beki Hatch
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	/
Name of local music hub	Encore Music Services

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.

Curriculum music

Our curriculum follows closely Get Set For Music and our curriculum overview is published on our website. This allows lessons and therefore skills to build upon each other.

https://www.withington.hereford.sch.uk/page/?title=Music&pid=51

Music at Withington is for all and we ensure all SEND children are fully integrated into our lessons. Our EHCP children are also supported by our LSA's and children's individual needs are considered. Children have the opportunity to work independently, in small groups or in whole class groups.

Music is delivered by a music specialist from our federation school – Aylestone High School. Music is delivered to KS1 every week with KS2 having their lessons split between the federation teacher and their class teacher over the term, Lessons are one hour a week from Year 1 – Year 6 with EYFS having weekly lessons with their class teacher. Nursery children start music from a young age, learning traditional nursery rhymes and experiencing different musical instruments.

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Children have opportunities to play musical instruments within their class throughout the year such as non-tuned percussion, glockenspiels and recorders. Musical vocabulary is reinforced and embedded during the lesson and in KS2, children start to learn how to read musical notes.

Singing is an integral part of Withington Primary school with singing incorporated into many of our assemblies, usually focused on the seasons or special events at the time, and children have opportunities to participate in singing within their music lessons.

Withington Primary works alongside Encore Music services to provide wider opportunities for pupils and learning opportunities for staff.

Extra-Curricular Opportunities

We have an active Glee Club that runs after school at different points of the year for children to join. This can be focused on dance performances or just for singing; completely free of charge. The music experienced is lead by the children and has previously covered a range of genres. Children enjoy singing as a large group before being encouraged to sing in small groups or even solos as their confidence grows. We share these performances with parents via Class Dojo or during assemblies. Children have recently enjoyed taking their singing out into the local community by singing carols at Orchard House Residential Home within the village. This is something we have done for the past four years and strive to continue to do so every year.

Last year, we trialled a recorder class after school; opening up the opportunity for children in KS1 and KS2 to learn the recorder, take them home free of charge and start to learn to read music on sight. Parents enjoyed hearing the recordings we took in class and hearing their progress from week to week.

Withington has lots of areas for children to practise and rehearse such as classrooms, our large hall, library area and therapy room. This allows children to rehearse in a range of size spaces with different acoustics, but also allows parents to come and see their performances.

From January 2026, Withington has been very excited to host Rocksteady – an initiative that has come to Herefordshire that allows children to start their own rock band. The company provides all of the musical instruments, plus a specialised music tutor to deliver and teach the songs the children want to learn, before performing them to parents every term! This year, eight children are currently having lessons through

Rocksteady and the children who have not signed have been given the opportunity to go on free trials to sample the experience. The level of confidence has risen exponentially, and their skill level has grown too from week to week.

Musical experiences

At Withington Primary School we love the opportunity to sing! Once a week, we share a song in assembly and our church group, Open The Book, enjoy sharing songs with children once a month during their assemblies too. Children are encouraged to sing as a whole school, in smaller groups or encouraged to take on solos if their confidence allows.

We have three productions put on throughout the year and this is split into different key stages. In the Christmas period, EYFS put on their own traditional nativity and learn songs to go alongside. Also, KS1 put on their own Christmas Play and learn to act, sing and dance alongside their friends. For the end of the year, KS2 put on a large full scale production in our school hall. Children are all welcome to audition and join in on a scale that suits them, with extra support for soloists to practise 1:1 with the music lead on the run up to the big day.

Throughout the year we also incorporate singing into the majority of our events. This year we have scheduled a Harvest Festival, Christingle, a Federation Carol Concert (KS2) and an Easter Service with singing showcasing in each one. During our termly parent assemblies, children also perform songs they have enjoyed throughout the year. For each of these events, parent admission is completely free! We enjoy parents coming along and the children having the opportunity to show off their talents on a wider scale.

We enjoy giving children extra opportunities to experience music too. In the past, we have had Music On The Move come into school through Encore Music Services, taken children to Young Voices in Birmingham and used music to boost our mental health through initiatives provided by The Courtyard, Hereford. This year, a selection of children are going to Young Voices again and are already eagerly practising their song selection once a week.

Our Rocksteady concerts happen once a term, where the children get to perform their songs to their parents and classes from the school. The children watching always really get behind the children and Dan from Rocksteady is fantastic with them. It really is one of the highlights of the term.

In the future

In the future, Withington's dream is to open up more opportunities for 1:1 tuition for all pupils through Rocksteady. We would like to work with our Pupil Premium children to give them the opportunity to experience music tuition and learn a new skill. This would allow more children to grow through creative learning and be able to express themselves through the medium of music.

Giving children wider opportunities to experience different genres of music, different musical performances and discussions with music experts is also in our vision to ensure children see that music goes beyond the classroom and to share in these experiences with parents and family members.

We want pupils to think beyond the boundary of their village and recognise that their talents and ambitions could take them much further. Through music, we aim to give children opportunities to perform for wider audiences, experience new places and develop their confidence to showcase their skills and talent to beyond the immediate community. We want to inspire them to think big, dream ambitiously and see that the world is full of opportunities for them to explore.

Further information

Withington Primary Curriculum

https://www.withington.hereford.sch.uk/page/?title=Music&pid=51

Aylestone High School Music Information

https://www.aylestone.hereford.sch.uk/page/?title=Music&pid=56

Encore Music Services

https://www.encore-enterprises.com/

Rocksteady

https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/