

Music Development Plan Summary: Farnham Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	12 December 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	31 July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Sharon Lilley
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Samantha Keenan
Name of local music hub	Bradford Music & Arts Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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.

All children from Reception to Year 6 are taught 30 minutes of music each week. Music is taught using the Charanga scheme of learning. Within the scheme children have the opportunity to learn and partake in the different genres of music that the world of music has to offer. Children also learn how to read musical notations, play instruments with this knowledge and perform for an audience in front of their peers. Recorders are taught in Year 3 and the use of percussion instruments runs through all year groups. Charanga gives the children at Farnham the opportunity to use their voice to critique pieces of music that they listen to as well as joining in with their singing voice. In Nursery, children are introduced to songs through nursery rhymes, our hello song that starts each session, a goodbye song to end each session as well as tidy up songs. Musical opportunities are open to all children regardless of their ability and everyone is encouraged to join in at their own pace and level, making music lessons fun for all as well as educational.

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.

All Year 3 children are given the opportunity to learn to play the recorder within their weekly music lessons. All year groups are encouraged to use precision instruments and in particular the glockenspiel in their weekly music lessons.

We have a developing choir that meets every Friday lunchtime. This is open for children in Years 5 and 6. In choir sessions, children choose the songs they would like to sing as well as carefully selected songs chosen by the choir teacher to ensure a wide breadth of songs from a range of genres are experienced. The choir performs for the whole of school, including parents in assemblies.

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 Farnham all children are involved in “Music in the round”, which is held termly in school. This is an opportunity for the children to showcase their musical accomplishments to their peers. It is held in the main hall and is a celebration of musical skills. The children learn and practise songs and musical pieces to perform on this day.

The school's choir performs for their families and at the school's Summer fair.

Each year in October, during Black History Week, the choir takes part in Bradford's “Swing Low, Big Sing” at St George's Hall where they perform as part of an even larger choir celebrating Black music.

In The Future

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

In the future we hope to offer the children at Farnham the opportunity to learn other instruments, such as the guitar, clarinet and ukulele with professional tutoring. We hope to take the choir out into the community, visiting care homes, and local events.