

Music development plan summary: Cherry Tree Academy

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.

Overview

| Detail | Information |
|--|---|
| Academic year that this summary covers | 2024-25 |
| Date this summary was published | September 2024 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | September 2025 |
| Name of the school music lead | Charlotte Newley |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | NA |
| Name of local music hub | Essex Music Hub |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | iRock School of Music, Charanga, Essex Music Services |

Part A: Curriculum music

All pupils receive weekly timetabled music lessons throughout the school year. These are delivered using the Charanga music scheme, which has schemes that align with the national curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum. The scheme ensures progression in listening, composing, performing, and appraising skills across all key stages.

From Summer Term 2, Year 5 pupils take part in whole-class instrumental lessons delivered in partnership with Essex Music Hub, where they learn to play the toots over a 10-week period. This opportunity promotes ensemble playing and introduces students to wind instruments.

Music is used across the curriculum to enhance classroom environments, with background music played during some lessons or key transition times during the day to support engagement and emotional regulation. Music is often used in mindfulness time and is played for enjoyment outside during lunchtimes. Year groups have playlists consisting of a wide range of music and recommendations from the model music

curriculum.

In line with our SEND provision, music lessons are inclusive, and adaptations are made to support the needs of all learners. Previously, we have accessed music nurture groups via Essex Music Hub to support emotional wellbeing through music for identified pupils.

Part B: Co-curricular music

We offer a wide range of musical opportunities outside curriculum/lesson time:

- Weekly singing assemblies for either the whole school or by key stage where pupils are able to suggest songs that they wish to learn, are exposed to wide repertoire and develop their confidence with singing.
- A musical theatre club runs after school every week. This year, the children will be performing a version of Matilda to their parents and the rest of the school.
- Children can register for weekly iRock, which enables small group instrumental tuition and ensemble performance within school hours. Children are able to choose from keyboard, guitar, drums or vocals. They perform termly to their parents and peers.
- Previously, we have also supported 1:1 tuition through Essex Music Services
- Space is available within the school for rehearsals and practice during and after the school day – hall, lodge, staff room

These activities help pupils develop musical skills and build confidence in performance, teamwork, and creativity.

Part C: Musical experiences

We provide a wide range of opportunities for children to experience music in varied forms:

- Pupils regularly perform in class assemblies for parents and
- All children take part in the nativity or carols concert at the end of Autumn term.
- Our annual outdoor, end-of-year 'Cherry Fest' music concert features performances from each class across the school
- A musical theatre performance or pantomime is booked each year for the whole school to enjoy (October 2024 and October 2025 confirmed)
- On 24th June 2025, all children will take part in an African drumming and dance workshop, including a live performance element

We also support listening and appreciation skills by setting up Model Music Curriculum playlists for each year group to access throughout the year.

In the future

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

We plan to continue developing our provision by:

- Reviewing music curriculum and auditing resources to identify areas for improvement.
- Embedding instrumental lessons more broadly across key stages

- Continuing to explore additional live music workshops and visiting musicians, possibly linking to the further and higher educational courses at Essex University and Colchester Institute and exploring links with specialist teachers at secondary schools in the local area.

- Further CPD for existing and new staff to develop subject knowledge and confidence in delivering the music curriculum effectively.

- Exploring further use of digital tools and resources to enhance the curriculum and enable access for all pupils.

