

Music development plan summary: Gaskell Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 - 2025
Date this summary was published	October 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Sarah Barlow
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Bolton Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

To read in more detail about the provision music at Gaskell Primary School, please visit our music curriculum page: <https://gaskell.bolton.sch.uk/music/>

Music is taught in every class, from Nursery to Year 6, weekly. Lessons are taught by a music specialist from Bolton Music Service. These lessons allow the children to perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions. The children are taught how to sing and use their voices to create and compose music on their own and with others. From Year 3, 4 and 6, they learn to play a musical instrument as a whole-class ensemble.

Year 3 – Recorders

Year 4 – Ukulele

Year 6 – Djembe Drums

Technology is embedded into the curriculum throughout school.

The music curriculum is underpinned by being taught identified key vocabulary, which is progressive across school.

On top of the weekly music lesson, children from Year 1 to Year 6 participate in a 'Big Sing' every other week, where focus songs are taught on a termly basis. We have a whole school concert at the end of the Autumn and Summer terms, where the children perform songs and pieces together, to celebrate the learning from that term.

Listening to music is an integral part of our school. Termly composers and pieces of music have been identified, which are played in the classes and during weekly assemblies, and the teachers ask questions around the pieces of music being played linked to the music curriculum.

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.

At Gaskell Community Primary School, we currently offer small-group lessons with woodwind instruments: recorder, flute and clarinet. These lessons are delivered by a qualified Music teacher from Bolton Music Services on a weekly basis in our music practise room. These lessons are funded through the school budget and the Pupil Premium provision.

We have a thriving Key Stage 1 and 2 Choir, who regularly perform throughout the year at local hospices, Dementia Clubs and Care Homes. They also participate in the Bolton Schools Music Festival in the summer term. We also offer a Djembe ensemble club, who meet weekly at lunchtime, and is provided by a teacher from Bolton Music Services. These ensembles are free.

All information regarding the opportunity for the children to join the Bolton Youth Choir in the evening is shared with all parents. Some of our woodwind players attend the youth band sessions at Bolton Music Services in the evenings.

In Key Stage 2, children get the chance to perform in 'Gaskell's Got Talent'.

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.

Throughout their time at Gaskell Community Primary School, the children have the opportunity to perform or experience high quality music. Please see the list of opportunities this academic year:

- Year 1 visit to the Halle Orchestra at the Bridgewater Hall, Manchester, as a member of the audience
- Year 3 participate in the Mayor's Christmas Concert
- Year 4 watch a musical at the Opera House, Manchester, as a member of the audience
- Year 5 watch a musical at a London theatre during their residential visit as a member of the audience
- Year 5 visit the Halle Orchestra at the Bridgewater hall, Manchester, as a member of the audience
- Whole school performance in September from Bolton Music Service orchestra for the children to watch and listen
- Whole school performance from the Handmade Singing Choir (Bolton Deaf Society) in the Autumn term for the children to participate and listen
- Big Sing assemblies, every other week, for all children in Year 1 – Year 6 to participate in
- The choir performs at several locations around the community throughout the year
- All children from Nursery to Year 6 perform throughout the year through religious celebrations and class assemblies
- Children in Key Stage 2 perform in a Nasheed competition at the local mosque
- Year 6 perform in the end of year production

The majority of these trip and experiences are free or paid for by school through the school budget and Pupil Premium provision. We ask for a small donation for the Halle Orchestra experiences, Opera House and London Musical, but these are heavily subsidised by school.

In the future

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

In future years, our Music Development Plan aims to achieve the following:

- Introduction of a wider range of instruments on offer for small group lessons

- Introduction of a trained music specialist to deliver the choir ensemble after school
- Further experiences for children throughout school to experience professional concerts as both a member of the audience and performer
- Further develop the opportunities for SEND children to participate in extra-curricular music