

Music development plan summary: Bridstow CE Primary School



This report outlines our broad approach towards the delivery of high-quality musical opportunities throughout the school year.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Dan Brearey - Headteacher
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Encore Enterprises Music Hub - Herefordshire

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 Bridstow CE Primary School, the music curriculum is thoughtfully structured to support musical development from the earliest years through to Year 6.

Every Class has at least one dedicated music lesson, led by a music specialist, each week. We closely link our music curriculum to the wider curriculum themes on offer each half term.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), music and movement activities are integrated to foster early musical appreciation alongside physical development, creating a strong foundation for future learning. In Key Stage 1, pupils engage in a termly music carousel led by a specialist music teacher, rotating between Glockenspiels, Ocarinas, and untuned percussion instruments. This carousel approach develops essential skills such as sight reading, rhythm, and simple composition.

Building on this foundation, Years 3 and 4 continue with a similar carousel model that includes samba, ocarina, and ukulele, further enhancing pupils' musical skills and confidence. For Years 5 and 6, specialist support focuses on learning a key instrument tailored to the class's needs and suitability, such as flutes, violins, trumpets, or clarinets. Pupils often begin with simplified versions of these instruments before progressing to the full instrument, ensuring a gradual and accessible learning curve.

Throughout all year groups, there are regular opportunities for pupils to perform and share their musical learning each term, fostering performance skills and confidence. This curriculum design aligns well with the school's inclusive ethos and vision of growing and flourishing together through a rich, collaborative musical education.

Next Steps:

- Provide additional professional development for staff to support inclusive practice, ensuring all pupils, including those with SEN and EAL, can access and progress confidently in music.

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.

Bridstow CE Primary School offers a vibrant co-curricular music programme that enriches pupils' musical experiences beyond the classroom. The Key Stage 2 choir plays a central role, providing pupils with opportunities to perform at significant events such as the Young Voices concerts in Birmingham and various local choir performances. These events not only enhance pupils' singing skills but also build their confidence in public performance.

Additionally, singing worship is embedded as a key part of the school day, promoting a whole-school culture of singing that supports spiritual development and collective participation. This approach aligns with the school's Christian values and vision, fostering a sense of community and belonging while developing musical and performance skills across all key stages.

In addition, we offer specialist peripatetic instrument lessons like ensembles or on a 1:1 basis. We offer brass lessons and guitar lessons currently but are always happy to explore a wider range of instrument tuition upon parental request.

Next Steps:

- Expand choir opportunities to include younger pupils, such as a Key Stage 1 choir, to nurture early singing skills and engagement.

- Create partnerships with local community groups and arts organisations to broaden the range of musical experiences available to pupils.

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.

The school actively cultivates rich musical experiences that enhance pupils' performance skills and confidence.

Through participation in Key Stage choirs and whole school singing events, pupils regularly perform in public settings. Annual attendance at the Young Voices regional events provides a high-profile platform for pupils to showcase their talents alongside peers from other schools. Local choir events, including parental performances hosted at community hubs, further extend pupils' opportunities to engage with audiences beyond the school environment.

These experiences are designed to build self-esteem and a sense of achievement, contributing to pupils' personal development and well-being in line with the school's vision of flourishing together.

In the future

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

Looking ahead, Bridstow CE Primary School aims to expand opportunities for pupils to participate in more public-facing musical events. This strategic focus will support the development of pupils' performance skills and confidence while promoting the school's musical strengths within the wider community. By increasing visibility and engagement, the school will create pathways for pupils to grow as confident, expressive musicians who embody the school's values of working, growing, and flourishing together.