



Music development plan summary: Eppleton Academy Primary School and Nursery

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Caroline Cowan
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Music Connects Sunderland
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	North East Music Hub (incorporates Music Connects Sunderland)

Our Vision

At Eppleton Academy Primary, we aim to deliver a high-quality, interactive music education that engages pupils and fosters a passion for music in children of all abilities. We implement a spiral curriculum based upon the Model Music Curriculum, enabling the statutory requirements of the National Curriculum to be delivered through a practical framework, and allowing children to increase in musical competence and develop a deeper learning and mastery of musical skills. Sequences of learning are set out using the following key areas - which form our golden threads of music: singing, listening, composing & improvising, and musicianship & performance – and the fundamental elements of music are revisited, with increasing levels of difficulty.

At Eppleton, we want to ensure that music is embedded in our whole school curriculum and that opportunities for enhancing learning by using music are always taken.

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.

Music lessons see our children increase their cultural capital and develop a critical engagement with music allowing them to compose, perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. Children understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations. One music unit is delivered per half term across school, with music being taught weekly and teachers ensuring appropriate curriculum coverage and progression.

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.

Children are given regular opportunities to develop their talent as musicians and to increase their self-confidence and sense of achievement, as well as to ignite their creativity. They are given the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and progress to the next level of musical excellence. Additionally, our school choir has a prominent profile, both inside and outside of school, frequently performing at whole school and for parents as well as in the wider community events. Whole class ensemble tuition is conducted in every KS2 class for at least a term in total, with several year groups receiving this tuition from an outside music specialist.

Enrichment

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.

Choir and individual classes take part in community events such as Houghton Feast, Sunderland Sings, Infantasias and Musical Showcase, as well as performing at care homes at Christmas time. Singing is highly important: weekly singing assemblies take place to teach our children how to sing and help to build up their repertoire of songs. This is further enhanced through our Musician of the Month assembly programme, where artists and their music (a range of musical styles and traditions from around the world) are shared, appreciated and celebrated. We also welcome visitors whenever possible so that children can listen to high-quality live music alongside recorded music.

In the future

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

Curriculum:

- To increase and embed the **singing** capabilities and repertoire across the school.
- To build assessment into classroom curriculum teaching.
- To increase confidence of children in performing musically.

Co-curricular:

- To begin exploring possibilities for creating a dedicated musical space either within the building or in the playground.
- To be aware and informed of pupils who have talent/interest/show promise musically in order to nurture and escalate their potential.

Enrichment:

- To increase opportunities for children who show musical talent or interest.
- To create opportunities for pupils to perform musically.