

Music development plan summary: Bishop Ridley Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	October 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 2027
Name of the school music lead	Olivia Cory
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Not applicable
Name of local music hub	Bexley Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Kapow Music and Rocksteady Music

This document outlines how Bishop Ridley C of E Primary School provides music education for all pupils through three key areas: curriculum music, co-curricular opportunities and musical experiences. It also highlights our plans for developing music provision in the future. The aim is to help pupils, parents and carers understand the musical opportunities available at our school and the partnerships that support and enrich our pupils' musical learning.

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 Bishop Ridley C of E Primary School, we follow the Kapow Primary Music scheme from EYFS to Year 6. Our curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021), ensuring that learning is carefully sequenced and builds progressively as children develop their musical knowledge, skills and understanding.

Music is planned across the school to ensure clear progression from EYFS through to Key Stage 2. Units are thoughtfully organised to provide a broad and balanced musical education, while making meaningful links with other areas of the curriculum.

Our long-term music curriculum plan can be viewed on the school website:

<https://www.bishopridleyschool.org.uk/music-1/>

Music is taught by class teachers, with knowledge and skills developed through carefully planned lessons. At the end of each lesson, children are assessed against the relevant learning objectives, using the knowledge and skills progression documents for their year group to monitor progress and support further development.

Throughout their music lessons, children are introduced to a range of musical instruments and have opportunities to develop their practical skills alongside their understanding of musical theory.

From Nursery and EYFS, music is embedded throughout the curriculum, providing opportunities for children to explore rhythm, sounds and a variety of instruments. This learning progresses into Key Stage 1, where music is taught weekly, and Key Stage 2, where it is taught in half-termly units. Lessons are planned to last a minimum of 30 minutes. Musical learning is further enriched through daily Collective Worship and Choral Worship assemblies, where children can develop their musical knowledge and performance skills.

Children also have opportunities to share and celebrate their musical achievements beyond the classroom. These include performing during our 'Thank You' Assemblies and taking part in our annual 'Bishop Ridley's Got Talent' show, allowing pupils to showcase their learning, build confidence and celebrate their musical talents.

SEND Support in music

At Bishop Ridley C of E Primary School, we are committed to ensuring that all pupils can access and enjoy our music curriculum. We recognise that some aspects of learning to play instruments can present barriers for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). We therefore aim to make music inclusive and accessible by adapting activities and instruments to meet individual needs.

Our priority is to ensure that every child has the opportunity to participate in music-making and experience the joy of creating music. This may include exploring rhythms using a drum, adapting a string instrument to make it easier to play, or adjusting the height and positioning of an instrument to support accessibility.

Class teachers carefully consider each child's individual needs and make appropriate adaptations to help all pupils participate meaningfully, develop their musical skills and enjoy their musical learning.

Part B: Co-curricular music

At Bishop Ridley C of E Primary School, we offer a range of co-curricular music opportunities to develop pupils' musical skills, confidence and enjoyment beyond the classroom. Through instrumental lessons, Rocksteady band sessions and our school

choir, children can explore their musical interests, work collaboratively and celebrate their talents.

At Bishop Ridley C of E Primary School, we offer small-group instrumental lessons through Bexley Music, giving children the opportunity to learn an instrument of their choice. Specialist music teachers visit the school and deliver lessons in small groups within our dedicated practice room. We are committed to ensuring these opportunities are accessible to all pupils, with financial support available for children eligible for Pupil Premium. The cost of lessons is subsidised or fully funded by the school, where appropriate.

We also offer Rocksteady band lessons, giving children the opportunity to learn and perform as part of a band. Pupils can develop their instrumental skills, teamwork and confidence while experiencing the excitement of making music together. These sessions encourage creativity, collaboration and a love of music.

To further enrich our music provision, we run a weekly Upper Key Stage 2 Choir, led by our Music Lead. Children are invited to join the choir and take part in weekly rehearsals, developing their singing skills, musical understanding and confidence. Throughout the school year, choir members perform at a variety of events both within and beyond the school. In partnership with our local church, the choir also contributes to school and community celebrations, strengthening our links with the wider community.

Parents and carers are kept informed of additional musical opportunities available through Bexley Music via ParentMail. These include extracurricular clubs, half-term activities and music courses, enabling children to continue developing their musical interests and skills beyond the school day.

Part C: Musical experiences

At Bishop Ridley C of E Primary School, we provide a range of musical experiences to inspire pupils and develop their confidence. Children sing during Collective Worship and Choral Worship assemblies and showcase their talents through 'Thank You' Assemblies and 'Bishop Ridley's Got Talent'. Our Upper Key Stage 2 Choir also performs at school and community events, including celebrations with our local church. These opportunities encourage pupils to share their musical skills and develop a lifelong love of music.

Bishop Ridley C of E Primary School provides a wide range of musical experiences throughout the year to inspire pupils and develop their love of music. Bexley Music visits annually to demonstrate instruments and encourage children to take part in

instrumental lessons. Pupils also enjoy live pantomime performances from CRiBs at Christmas and Easter.

Children across the school participate in seasonal performances, including Christmas songs, hymns and productions, as well as a special Easter service at Bishop Ridley Church. Termly 'Thank You' Assemblies and weekly Celebration Worship provide further opportunities to share musical achievements with the school community. Year 6 pupils showcase their musical skills through their end-of-year production.

We also encourage children to experience music beyond the classroom through opportunities such as Young Voices, performances and different venues and collaborative choir rehearsals with other schools. Our annual 'Bishop Ridley's Got Talent' show allows pupils to celebrate and share their individual musical talents.

We are committed to ensuring these opportunities are accessible to all pupils, with financial support available to subsidise or fully fund participation for disadvantaged children where needed.

Future Musical Aspirations at Bishop Ridley

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

At Bishop Ridley C of E Primary School, we are committed to providing a progressive music curriculum from EYFS to Year 6. We recognise the importance of continually developing our provision to deepen pupils' musical understanding and encourage a life-long love of music.

Our future aims include:

- Continuing to provide opportunities for KS1 and KS2 pupils to perform throughout the year and experience live music from external providers.
- Promoting Bexley Music instrumental lessons and expanding access to small-group tuition across a range of instruments.
- Celebrating pupils' musical achievements, both in and out of school, during our weekly Friday Celebration Worship.
- Continuing to grow participation in our KS2 Choir. Membership has remained steady at around 50 children over the past couple of years, and we aim to build on this success by encouraging even more pupils to join and participate in performances.
- Exploring the introduction of a music club for younger children to develop their musical interests and skills from an early age.
- Introducing termly 'Play and Perform' sessions, allowing children to share their instrumental skills with their peers.
- Providing more opportunities for pupils to visit concert venues, theatres and other cultural settings to experience live music, explore the arts and broaden their musical understanding.

- Developing partnerships with local secondary schools to provide musical experiences that inspire pupils to continue their musical journey beyond primary school.

We aim to ensure that every child has the opportunity to develop their musical talents, celebrate their achievements and enjoy a rich variety of musical and artistic experiences throughout their time at Bishop Ridley.

Further information

For further information about music education and opportunities beyond school, please visit the following websites:

- Bexley Music: Find out more about instrumental lessons, choirs, ensembles and musical opportunities for children and young people. Visit [Bexley Music](#)
- Department for Education: A guide for parents, carers and young people explaining how to get involved in music and access support beyond school. Read the [music education guide](#)
- Arts Council England: Find information about Music Education Hubs and local opportunities to support children's musical development. Explore [Music Education Hubs](#)