

Music development plan summary: Lindens Academy

Written By Luke Wilson



This is a summary of how our Academy 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.

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Luke Wilson
Curriculum Lead	Luke Wilson
Name of local music hub	Black Country Music Hub

Part A: Curriculum music

At Lindens Academy, we aim to give every child the opportunity to experience the power of music to enhance their lives, as well as capitalising on the benefits it provides in other areas of the curriculum. Singing, playing instruments, performing, and composing are enjoyable, creative, and fulfilling learning experiences in their own right. We believe that this learning extends beyond the music curriculum.

Music is taught throughout the school to all children from Nursery to Year 6. Music lessons are delivered by all class teachers and are taught for 1 hour per week. Mr. Wilsons' plans are based on and are aligned with the National Curriculum objectives. Lessons are led using the Charanga Creative scheme from Nursery to Year 6. This scheme is passionate about children's music learning and its potential to help them grow up as kind, curious, and open-minded young people who are sensitive and knowledgeable about music and the arts. Music is often integrated into other areas of the curriculum to support and enhance the work done within planned topics. A wide range of resources is available to support music teaching. We give pupils the opportunity to appreciate a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music.

Pupils at Lindens Academy are always encouraged to explore further and to take any opportunity to expand their musical ability. Plans are designed so that the topics children study in music build upon prior learning. While there are opportunities for children of all abilities to develop their skills and knowledge in each teaching unit, the progression planned into the scheme of work ensures that the children are increasingly challenged as they move through the school.

We teach music to all children, whatever their ability and individual needs. Music forms part of the school curriculum policy to provide a broad and balanced education to all children. Through our music teaching, we provide learning opportunities that enable all pupils to make good progress. We strive to meet the needs of those pupils with special educational needs, those with disabilities, Gifted and Talented pupils, and those learning English as an additional language. We take all reasonable steps to achieve these goals. When progress falls significantly outside the expected range, the child may have special educational needs. Our assessment process looks at a range of factors, such as classroom organisation, teaching materials, teaching style, differentiation – so that we can take some additional or different action to enable each individual child to learn more effectively. Assessment against the National Curriculum allows us to consider each child's attainment and progress against expected levels. This helps to ensure that our teaching is matched to the child's needs. Music may contribute towards meeting targets set out in a child's Individual Education Plan (IEP). The class teacher will liaise with the music specialist teachers regarding these when planning and designing tasks for music lessons. We enable pupils to have access to the full range of activities involved in learning music. Where children are to participate in activities outside the classroom (for example in a music festival at an outside venue) we carry out a risk assessment prior to the activity and undertake educational visits planning to ensure the activity is safe and appropriate for all pupils.

The Charanga Creative Music Scheme provides teachers with week-by-week lesson support for each year group in the school. It is ideal for both specialist and non-specialist teachers and provides lesson plans, assessments, clear progression, and engaging and exciting whiteboard resources to support every lesson. The scheme supports all the requirements of the national

curriculum. In line with the curriculum for music and guidance from Ofsted, this scheme moves away from the previous levels and learning objective/outcome concepts to an integrated, practical, exploratory, and child-led approach to musical learning.

The interrelated dimensions of music weave through the units to encourage the development of musical skills as the learning progresses through listening and appraising, different musical activities (including creating and exploring), and performing.

Each unit of work comprises strands of musical learning that correspond with the national curriculum for music:

1. Listening and Appraising
2. Musical Activities a. Warm-up Games b. Music Technology c. Singing d. Playing Instruments e. Improvisation f. Composition
3. Performing

B: Co-curricular music

Children from Years 1-2 and Years 3 to 6 have the opportunity to join the school's KS1 and KS2 choir. This is not an ability-based offer and any child who wishes to participate may do so. The school choir aims to develop the importance of mental health and to promote a love of music by joining others with the same interest. The KS2 Choir also have the opportunity to perform with one of the largest communal choirs, Young Voices.

The choirs are set up to support a love of music, to engage all that wish to be involved and to build upon techniques introduced during music lessons. All children are taught the importance and value of the voice as an instrument and the choir follows warmups, of both voice and body, before each session. Wide varieties of songs are on offer and songs from different cultures and languages are taught as part of the Young Voices repertoire.

As a school we also offer children in KS2 the opportunity to join an after-school Ukulele Ensemble. This operates through Thespian Arts and is a great opportunity for children to learn notation and to perform as a group. Children who are in receipt of Pupil Premium are guaranteed a place if they would like to join. The ensemble provides multiple performance opportunities throughout the school year, promoting a love for music and giving students a chance to display their skills.

Pupils in Years 4, 5 and 6 have the opportunity to sign up to learn either the violin or cello through weekly small-group lessons delivered by the Black Country Music Hub. Each lesson lasts 20 minutes and provides pupils with the opportunity to develop their instrumental skills, musical understanding and confidence over time. These lessons are funded by parents/carers and provide a valuable opportunity for pupils to learn an instrument alongside their wider classroom music education. Additionally, the school hosts additional music lessons through the company Rocksteady. Children from Reception to Year 6 can be part of their own small ensemble and learn an instrument in a weekly 30-minute lesson. These lessons are funded by parents/carers. Instruments include electric guitar, bass guitar, drums, vocals and keyboards.

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.

At Lindens Academy, we offer a wide variety of opportunities for pupils to experience music in different formats. Each year group takes part in a weekly singing assembly focused on a wide selection of traditional and modern hymns. These assemblies provide a communal space for students to engage with music, fostering a sense of community and shared enjoyment through collective singing.

Once children reach the end of their topic in music, they have the opportunity to perform what they have learned to their peers in the same year group. These performances are recorded and can be viewed via the Charanga Teacher's Portal. This allows students to reflect on their progress and share their achievements with their families, creating a sense of accomplishment and pride in their musical journey.

In Year 2, children rehearse and perform a Nativity play to their families and the rest of the school. This early performance experience helps build their confidence, stage presence and ability to perform as part of an ensemble. In Years 4, 5 and 6, children who take part in violin and cello lessons have the opportunity to perform at the end of the academic year to their families and Year 3 pupils, allowing them to celebrate their musical progress and share their skills with others. In Year 6, students rehearse and perform a Leavers' production, providing a memorable and celebratory conclusion to their primary school years.

Each year, we welcome a range of visiting musicians and ensembles to perform for our pupils, providing children with the opportunity to experience high-quality live music and discover a variety of instruments and musical styles. Visitors have included musicians from Aldridge School, former pupils of the academy and members of the CBSO, including Stringcredibles. During these performances, pupils are encouraged to ask questions about the instruments, musicians and pieces being performed, helping to broaden their musical knowledge and inspire them in their own musical development. These visits provide a valuable opportunity for our pupils to engage with experienced musicians and see first-hand the opportunities available to them as young musicians.

Due to our school being part of the Lighthouse Multi-Academy Trust, we regularly partake in a variety of shows and performances. These include the annual Lighthouse Got Talent Show, where pupils can showcase their individual or group talents. This yearly event takes place at Bescott Stadium, offering a professional stage experience. Our school choir also receives the opportunity to perform at multiple venues and events. A highlight is the Young Voices event in Birmingham, where our choir joins thousands of other students in a massive concert. Additionally, our choir participates in the Lighthouse Choirs Show, where all schools in the federation bring their choirs to perform for families and each other.

In summary, Lindens Academy offers a rich array of musical experiences, from assemblies and classroom performances to large-scale events and collaborations with other Academies. We encourage all students to take part in these opportunities, developing a love for music and performance that we hope will continue to grow throughout their lives.

In the future

At Lindens Academy, we have exciting plans to further develop our music provision in the coming years. We have successfully achieved our target of increasing the number of concerts and performance opportunities available to pupils, and we will continue to build on this success by introducing further opportunities for children to perform and celebrate their musical achievements. Our next key priority is to design and develop a designated music space within the Academy, providing a dedicated environment where all music lessons can take place. This space will support high-quality music teaching and learning, provide appropriate storage for instruments and resources and create an inspiring environment in which pupils can develop their musical skills. Alongside this, we will continue to explore opportunities to acquire new instruments, establish additional after-school ensembles and ensure that all pupils receive consistent and high-quality music education through a weekly one-hour music lesson.

Links related to this document

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people>

<https://www.walmused.co.uk/>

<https://charanga.com/site/>

<https://www.lindens.lhmat.com/The-Curriculum/>