

# Music development plan summary: Istead Rise Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	February 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	February 2026
Name of the school music lead	Simon Meredith
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Kent Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady Music

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.

Our school follows the Charanga Music Scheme, to ensure that all elements of the Music National Curriculum are being taught. This includes music theory, singing, the learning of instruments and is progressive through the year groups.

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.

Ofsted have stated that "We will not always know the learning outcomes" so segregated learning objectives at the start of each lesson are not appropriate. Instead the interrelated dimensions of music weave through the units to encourage the development of musical skills as the learning progresses through listening and appraising, differing musical activities (including creating and exploring) and performing.

## How the Scheme is structured

Each Unit of Work comprises of strands of musical learning which correspond with the national curriculum for music:

Listening and Appraising

Musical Activities

- . Warm-up Games
- a. Optional Flexible Games
- b. Singing
- c. Playing instruments
- d. Improvisation
- e. Composition

Performing

## 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.

### Within curriculum Music lessons

All activities are based around a song and the following structure is used:

Games embed the Interrelated Dimensions of Music through repetition

- A. Singing is at the heart of all the musical learning
- B. Playing instruments with the song to be learnt - tuned/un-tuned classroom percussion and an option to play any band instrument. A sound-before-symbol approach is used but scores are provided as an understanding of notation is introduced to the children
- C. Improvising with the song using voices and instruments (in some Units of Work)
- D. Composing with the song using instruments occurs in some Units of Work

Performing to share what has taken place during the lesson and work towards performing to an audience.

### Whole school singing

As part of our Celebration Assembly each week, we engage in whole school singing for a selected termly song. These songs are recent and popular among the children, and

chosen from a wide range of genres. This is taught to the pupils weekly and the chosen song reflects one of our school values.

### **Performances to the wider community**

Each year, classes take part in singing to the wider community through carol concerts arranged in conjunction with the local church and community groups.

### **Additional instrument experiences/learning an instrument**

In addition to the learning of instruments through whole class tuition, we have partnered with Rocksteady Music to provide a group (band) experience for learning an instrument. These sessions occur weekly. This offers pupils the opportunity to learn either vocals, drums, guitar, bass guitar or keyboards. Groups are in mixed year groups and culminate each term with two live performances – firstly to the rest of the pupils of the school, and then to their families.

We also have two additional peripatetic music teachers who offer 1:1 tuition for learning piano and guitar.

## **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.

As a school we engage frequently with live musical performances through trips to the West End. Recent visits have included: The Lion King, Matilda, Back to the Future the musical and Frozen; giving our pupils the opportunity to both experience live music and to inspire them towards a potential career in the Musical Arts.

Our Rocksteady bands perform termly to the rest of the school, giving the bands the experience of performing to a live audience and allowing the rest of our pupils to celebrate the success of others.

In the Summer Term, we hold a Curriculum Enrichment Day based entirely around music, which includes each class performing to the rest of the school.

## In the future

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

- In addition to the comprehensive music curriculum and activities we currently undertake, we are also looking at providing additional rehearsal time for those children learning instruments through the purchase of further school instruments.
- Rejoining the Young Voices at the O2
- Establishing and 'Rock Choir' for Key Stage 2