

Music development plan summary: Quest Primary School

Overview

| Detail | Information |
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| Academic year that this summary covers | 2024 - 2025 |
| Date this summary was published | April 2025 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | September 2025 |
| Name of the school music lead | Sarah Dance |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | Jo Stawman |
| Name of local music hub | Croydon Schools Music Association (CSMA) |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | None |

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 Quest Primary School, we utilise Kapow Primary's Music scheme of work. The scheme takes a holistic approach to music, in which the individual strands are woven together to create engaging and enriching learning experiences, on average one hour per week. The strands are as follows:

- Performing
- Listening
- Composing
- The history of music
- The inter-related dimensions of music

Four topics are taught to each class per year, each lasting a half term. Weekly music lessons, are informed by the Model Music Curriculum (non-statutory guidance for music teaching) and provide pupils with opportunities to listen to and evaluate music

from diverse time periods and cultures, learn how to create and control sound using their voices as well as tuned and untuned instruments, understand how music is communicated through various notation systems, improvise and compose music and perform musically in front of audiences of varying sizes.

Over the course of the scheme, children are taught how to sing fluently and expressively and to play tuned and untuned instruments accurately and with control. They learn to recognise and name the interrelated dimensions of music – pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, structure, textures and dynamics.

Weekly Singing Assemblies are also delivered to EYF/KS1/ELP pupils and KS2/ELP pupils for 30 minutes in the school hall. These are delivered by a specialist music teacher from one of our secondary academies, Riddlesdown Collegiate, and support pupils to learn simple songs, develop confidence when performing as a large group and to enjoy the fun, group dynamic and excitement that singing together brings.

You can find out more about our Music curriculum on our website by clicking here: [Music – Quest Primary](#)

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.

At Quest Primary, weekly music tuition is offered by 'Rocksteady', giving pupils the opportunity to develop technical proficiency on a musical instrument such as keyboard, drums, guitar or bass., as well as vocals. Children become part of a band and meet to rehearse weekly, in our music room, with access to quality instruments (provided by Rocksteady). Children perform as a band, in a whole school assembly to their peers and their parents. Rocksteady is offered to all pupils from EYFS - Year 6, at a monthly charge booked directly through Rocksteady. [Parents - Rocksteady Music School](#) There is one bursary place provided annually to a pupil, who must be in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant.

The Collegiate Trust (TCT) offers an Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme which allows parents of pupils undertaking music tuition to purchase an instrument through the Trust and save the costs of VAT. More information about this scheme can be found here: [Assisted Instrument Purchase Scheme – Quest Primary](#)

Children in KS2 can join our school choir. Many children choose to join our choir and have opportunities to perform to the school and outside of school. The choir rehearse weekly for 30 minutes during lunchtime so all children who want to have the

opportunity to attend at no cost. There is a termly opportunity for performance e.g. at the school Christmas Carol Service, Easter Assembly or Summer Celebration.

Rocksteady tuition and choir rehearsals take place in our dedicated music room. Pupils are able to use any of the many breakout spaces for rehearsal as required.

Performances take place in the school hall.

Alongside this, the choir perform at other events when invited – recently this has included at the Selsdon Contact Centre’s Christmas Lunch in December ’24 for 80 elderly people, and their VE Day 80th Celebrations in May 2025. In autumn term, children from Year 4 upwards are invited to participate in the Young Voices massed choir event held annually at the O2 in London, which culminates in an exciting performance at the O2 each January, which is well attended by both pupils and their parents.

As part of the Quest Primary School Citizenship Award scheme, one of the criteria for achieving the silver award is to: *Perform in a school music concert as part of a group, or as a solo performer.* This is included as we recognise the importance and opportunity that participating in musical experience and learning can offer to our young people as part of their wider personal and social development and encourage them to develop their musical skills, knowledge and interests as part of this scheme.

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.

Musical Experiences across the Academic Year include:

~ Weekly singing assemblies, taught by a qualified music teacher, for both EYFS/KS1 and KS2. Children are given opportunities to practise warming up their vocals and sing both fluently and expressively.

~ Choir club perform both in and out of school termly, and practise weekly. There have been recent out of school performances for the Selsdon Contact Centre Community group.

~ Young Voices: Children in Years 4-6 are offered the chance to join the Young Voices choir. Children practice weekly for 12 weeks, before performing at the O2 arena with other schools from around the country. The Young Voices Concerts take place in spring term 1 and pupils perform alongside 9,000 other young voices, enjoying a truly memorable experience. Children rehearse together as a massed choir, creating a vibrant collective experience, ending with concert performances featuring special guest

artists. There is no cost for participation but parents do have to pay standard prices for tickets if they wish to watch the event at the O2.

~ Harvest Festival performances in school, where all children sing and perform seasonal songs in our dedicated assembly. (Oct./Nov. annually)

~ Bi-annual visit from a touring theatre company where children get to experience people performing, playing and singing in a pantomime. This is funded by the PTFA.

~ Yearly Christmas production (EYFS and KS1) where children get the chance to sing and perform to the rest of the school, and parents. (December each year)

~ KS2 Christmas Carol Service - Children get the chance to perform Christmas songs to the rest of the school, and parents. (December each year)

- Year 6 attend the annual Musicals produced by TCT secondary schools at Riddlesdown Collegiate and The Quest Academy in spring term 1.

- Year 5 attend the Whitgift Primary Project annually in summer 2. As part of this experience they attend a music lesson taught by Whitgift staff as part of their week.

- As part of our personal development offer, we seek to provide opportunities for pupils to experience other forms of musical experience. These have included a trip to The Royal Opera House to watch a full-length schools' matinee production of Cinderella; and trips to watch the Whitgift School annual orchestral performance at The Fairfield Halls.

~ Most (if not all) of our events are free of charge to families.

In the future

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

Quest Primary School is committed to continually enhancing musical offerings to pupils. Below are the improvements we plan to implement in the coming years. We welcome your suggestions and encourage you to contact the school if you have any ideas on how we can further improve our musical opportunities.

~ Introduce whole class instrumental teaching in Years 3 and 4, in addition to music lessons, as per the Model Music Curriculum. It is hoped to introduce this for the 2025-2026 academic year.

- Continue to promote Rocksteady tuition to the school community to increase numbers participating. Classes learning instruments (Years 3 & 4) will perform at least annually to parents & carers alongside their Rocksteady counterparts in an assembly to showcase their talent and progress. From September 2025.

~ To continue improvements across the school we will be extending the range of different musical experiences (e.g. from different cultures, linked to themed days, fundraising events and musical experiences offered as part of extra-curricular provision).

~ To increase the available musical instruments/equipment within the school, to enable better delivery of the scheme of work.

~ We will also enhance the scope of performance opportunities available by planning events with other Trust schools, such as a TCT Primary Schools Massed Choir event. It is hoped the first of these could be held in the academic year 2025 – 26.

Further information (optional)

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.