

School Music Development Plan Summary 2025/26

The Ellis CE Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Charlotte Trotter
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music	Charlotte Trotter/Emily Edwards
Name of local music hub	Barnsley Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s)	Rocksteady Music School, Young Voices

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all pupils across three key areas: curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences. It also outlines our priorities for development during 2025/26 in line with the Department for Education's National Plan for Music Education.

Part A: Curriculum Music

At The Ellis CE Primary School, we believe that every child should have regular opportunities to participate in high-quality musical experiences and develop as confident, creative and expressive musicians.

Our music curriculum aims to:

- Develop a lifelong love and appreciation of music.
- Provide all children with access to high-quality musical teaching and learning.
- Build progression in musical knowledge, vocabulary and skills from EYFS to Year 6.
- Expose pupils to a wide range of musical genres, traditions and cultures.
- Encourage children to become active listeners, performers, composers and evaluators.
- Support personal development through teamwork, confidence, resilience, creativity and communication.
- Ensure music contributes positively to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Curriculum Delivery

- All pupils receive a weekly music lesson.
- KS1 and KS2 pupils attend a weekly singing assembly led by Mrs Trotter, a music specialist.
- Music is taught using the Kapow Primary Music Scheme, which supports progression in:
 - Listening and appraising
 - Singing
 - Composing and improvising
 - Performing
 - Musical notation and vocabulary
- EYFS children access music through the Expressive Arts and Design framework alongside regular singing, rhythm and listening activities.
- Teachers use assessment opportunities within Kapow to monitor progress and identify next steps.
- Examples of pupils' musical work are stored digitally to support assessment and progression.

Singing and Performance

Singing remains central to musical life at The Ellis. Pupils sing regularly through:

- Weekly singing assemblies
- Classroom music lessons
- Worship and celebration events
- Performances and productions

Children participate annually in:

- Harvest Festival
- Christingle Service
- Easter Service
- Nativity performances
- Young Voices concerts
- End of year music celebration performances

Listening and Musical Appreciation

Pupils listen to and evaluate music from a range of:

- Historical periods
- Musical genres
- Cultures and traditions

- Famous composers and contemporary musicians

Children are encouraged to discuss music using accurate musical vocabulary and develop critical listening skills.

Instrumental Opportunities

- Pupils regularly use tuned and untuned percussion instruments.
- Whole-class instrumental experiences are incorporated where possible.
- Rocksteady band sessions provide opportunities for children to learn instruments including guitar, keyboard, drums and vocals.

Inclusion and Accessibility

We are committed to ensuring that all pupils can access music education regardless of background, SEND or financial circumstances. Adaptations and support are provided where appropriate to ensure all children can participate successfully.

Part B: Extra-Curricular Music

We aim to provide opportunities for pupils to develop their musical interests beyond the classroom.

Current Opportunities

Rocksteady Music School

Through our partnership with Rocksteady, pupils can:

- Learn instruments as part of a band
- Perform regularly to peers and parents
- Develop confidence and teamwork skills
- Experience live performance opportunities

Lessons take place weekly during the school day.

Choir and Singing Opportunities

- Pupils participate in Young Voices annually at Sheffield Arena.
- A lunchtime and after-school choir club supports preparation for performances.
- Many pupils also participate in Barnsley Youth Choir.
- Children are encouraged to attend local workshops and musical enrichment opportunities.

Planned Improvements for 2025/26

To further strengthen extra-curricular provision, we plan to:

- Increase participation in musical clubs across all year groups.
 - Explore opportunities for additional instrumental tuition through Barnsley Music Hub.
 - Develop opportunities for small ensemble and group performances.
 - Improve access for disadvantaged pupils through subsidised opportunities where possible.
 - Celebrate pupils' musical achievements more regularly through assemblies, newsletters and social media.
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Part C: Musical Experiences

Music plays an important role in the wider life of the school.

Performance Opportunities

Pupils regularly perform in:

- Weekly worship and singing assemblies
- Church services and celebrations
- EYFS coffee mornings
- KS1 Nativity productions
- Year 6 leavers' assemblies
- Whole-school music celebrations
- Young Voices performances

Live Music Experiences

Children have opportunities to experience live music through:

- Theatre visits
- Visiting performance groups
- Workshops with musicians and choirs
- Music Hub events and performances
- School productions and concerts

Community Links

We continue to strengthen links with:

- Barnsley Music Hub

- Local churches
- Local performance groups
- Families and the wider school community

Parents and carers are regularly invited to attend musical performances and celebrations throughout the year.

In the Future: Development Priorities for 2025/26

During 2025/26, we aim to continue improving music provision across school through the following priorities:

1. Improve Resources and Equipment

- Replenish and replace damaged percussion instruments.
- Organise and audit musical resources to improve accessibility for staff and pupils.

2. Enhance Curriculum Delivery

- Continue embedding the Kapow curriculum to ensure clear progression.
- Further develop assessment systems to track musical progress effectively.
- Increase opportunities for composition and improvisation across all year groups.
- Strengthen links between classroom music and live performance opportunities.

3. Develop Staff Confidence and CPD

- Provide staff training and CPD opportunities through Barnsley Music Hub and Kapow.
- Support non-specialist teachers in delivering high-quality music lessons confidently.
- Share best practice across school.

4. Increase Musical Enrichment Opportunities

- Expand opportunities for live music experiences.
- Increase participation in local musical events and festivals.
- Develop stronger partnerships with external music organisations.
- Explore opportunities for whole-class instrumental teaching.

5. Promote Inclusion and Participation

- Encourage greater participation from disadvantaged pupils and pupils with SEND.
- Ensure music opportunities remain accessible to all children.
- Continue celebrating diversity through a broad and inclusive music curriculum.

6. Raise the Profile of Music Across School

- Celebrate musical achievements in assemblies and newsletters.
 - Share performances and successes with families and the wider community.
 - Continue developing a vibrant musical culture throughout the school.
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Monitoring and Evaluation

The impact of the music development plan will be monitored through:

- Lesson observations and learning walks
- Pupil voice activities
- Performance participation
- Teacher assessments
- Staff feedback
- Monitoring of extra-curricular participation
- Review meetings with senior leaders and music partners

The school will review this plan annually to ensure continued improvement and alignment with national guidance.