

All Faiths Children's Academy

Music Development Plan Summary

At All Faiths Children's Academy, our vision is for all children to learn to sing, play an instrument and create music together. We do this through providing a broad musical culture which allows children to engage in a range of experiences both inside and outside of school.

This means that all children:

- Engage in timetabled curriculum music lesson at least one hour each week
- Have access to expertise for a range of instruments, and voice
- Have access to a school choir or vocal ensemble
- Have access to school ensemble, band or group
- Engage in rehearsals and individual practice
- Have access to a termly school performance
- Be given the opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year
- Be given the opportunity to perform in live performances throughout the school year
- Contribute to trust wide events yearly

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	01.09.25
Date this summary will be reviewed	01.09.26
Name of the school music lead	Ruth Everingham
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Andrew Kershaw
Name of local music hub	Kent Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	iRock School of 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.

At All Faiths Children's Academy, we use Charanga's Model Music Curriculum for all of our music lessons. This scheme is aligned with the National Curriculum for Music and the non-statutory Model Music Curriculum (MMC) Guidance published by the DfE in 2021.

This Scheme provides clearly-sequenced units and lessons with week-by-week support for each year group. There are lesson plans, assessment documentation, a clear learning progression, as well as engaging and exciting songs and resources to support every lesson.

The Scheme follows a spiral approach to musical learning, with children revisiting, building and extending their knowledge and skills incrementally. In this manner, their learning is consolidated and augmented, increasing musical confidence and enabling them to go further. Teachers can adapt their teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of the children they teach.

The MMC Scheme is suitable for children aged 5–11, with six self-sufficient units per year. Each unit is structured into six steps. The first step of each unit introduces that unit's focus in terms of content, skills and knowledge; the middle steps then develop this, and the final, sixth step assesses the learning through exciting performances and activities.

At the centre of each step – each lesson – is a song around which the musical learning is centred. Each lesson has an easy-to-follow structure, complemented by an array of supporting documents, lesson plans and resources that take you through listening, singing, performing, composing and improvising exercises with the children.

All Faiths hosts a Specialist Provision for Children Who Are Deaf and has a Team of Qualified Teachers of the Deaf (TOD) and Signing Specialist Teaching Assistants (STA) who support in Collective Worship (including the weekly Singing Collective worship, which is led by a TOD), in all lessons, where Deaf learners access specialist/1:1/ensemble provision, and after school clubs.

Pupils are offered the opportunity to partake in lessons with iRock, learning guitar, keyboards, drums and vocals – this is a service parents can buy into.

All pupils are given the opportunity to attend choir throughout the year. During terms 1-3 this is open to KS2 pupils who can also access the Young Voices event. During terms 5-6 the choir is open to all pupils to encourage singing for pleasure and to support emotional health and well-being. This takes place during lunchtime so is accessible to all pupils. Those who choose to engage are also offered the chance to perform for the whole school.

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 All Faiths Children's Academy, as well as the music curriculum that is taught weekly, we have a wide range of opportunities for children to have music tuition from experts. We work in partnership with Kent Music. Currently, our KS2 music lessons are supplemented by 30-minute sessions with a specialist Music teacher across the school year.

Alongside this we have a company called iRock School of Music who allow children of any age to experience life in a rock or pop band. Under the guidance of an iRock music teacher, children rehearse weekly in the lead up to end of term concerts. Once part of the band children can choose to be a singer or learn to play one of the instruments on offer.

We have an active school choir in both KS1 and 2 that meet weekly. All children have the opportunity to join our choir and be part of the external and internal performances that we hold.

Some year groups are offered the opportunity to attend the Medway Music Festivals each year where they will perform with children of similar ages from other local schools.

The children that attend the KS2 choir also have the opportunity to take part in young voices choir which is held yearly at the O2 in London. This gives our children the opportunity to perform to a much wider audience with thousands of other children from school across the country. It also gives them the opportunity to experience the live performance of, and enjoy working with, a range of professional musicians.

We ensure that where there are costs to any such events or musical experiences, we subsidise payments to allow opportunities for all children to widen their cultural capital.

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.

Over the coming year we will continue to offer all of same the experiences as previous years, ensuring that we consider subsidised and or free tuition where necessary.

Most of our vocal music in school is supported with British Sign Language (BSL) or Sign Supported English (SSE) and pupils are encouraged to use signs to support meta-cognition and memory/retrieval skills.

During our Harvest Celebrations, each class has the chance to perform a prepared piece to the whole school.

The choir will attend both the Medway Music Festival as well as Young Voices. This is a shared trip with three other schools in the Trust. In preparation for this the schools come together to perform for parents.

The choir also have the opportunity to perform at the Rotary Club Christmas Dinner in Rochester. At Christmas the EYFS children share a selection of Christmas songs with their parents and carers, the KS1 pupils perform their Nativity, and the KS2 pupils visit the local church, St Martin's, where they perform their Christmas Music. The pupils also take part in a whole school Carols by Candlelight at the end of Term 2, in which staff share the Christmas story.

This year we have been invited to perform for the Salvation Army and the local Alzheimer's Dementia Café, performing Christmas Music.

The Y6 pupils will rehearse and perform their leavers production in Term 6..

In the future

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

At All Faiths Children's Academy, we believe that all children, regardless of background, should have access to a high-quality music education. To ensure this happens we are committed to delivering high quality classroom teaching, embedding the high standards set by the national curriculum, as exemplified by the Model Music Curriculum.

Through our music development plan, we will continue to engage with the partnerships that we have built, and look to further increase the offer that we currently have to allow for all children to experience music and performances in a variety of events.

As part of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust, we work collaboratively with the schools across our trust to share talents and musical experts. As we develop, we will build on the links we have and look for further opportunities to share performances with them and use the facilities they have to offer. The strong links will allow us to share children's musical talents as they transition from Primary to Secondary and promote the continuation of their music education.

