

## Music development plan summary: Imperial Avenue Infant School

This is an overview of the summary of Imperial Avenue Infants School's music provision for the 2025-26 and our plans for subsequent years. We are a school that is part of the Leicestershire Music Hub.

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	March 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Lucy Powell
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Leicestershire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

### 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.

To read in more detail about the provision music at Imperial Avenue Infants School, please visit our music curriculum page

<https://www.imperialavenue.leicester.sch.uk/key-stage-1-curriculum/>

Music is taught in class every week and is informed by the model music curriculum (March 2021). Lessons are 40 minutes long and are taught by class teachers. All Music lessons begin with musical appreciation based on songs suggested by the Model Music Curriculum and allows children the chance to listen to and discuss a wide variety of musical genres.

An understanding of key musical vocabulary underpins children's learning and this is revisited in all Music lessons and allows children the chance to discuss and share their own opinions about music and link this to their knowledge of key music concepts.

Planning is informed by the scheme of work from the Leicestershire Music Hub which has then been adapted and refined to meet the needs of our pupils. This musical learning is further supplemented by weekly singing assemblies in Key Stage 1, lasting 20 minutes and whole class chorale singing threaded through the curriculum at other times during the week.

The Leicestershire Music Hub scheme of work incorporated all aspects of the model music curriculum. The curriculum ensures children in all year groups cover a different aspect of music each half term consisting of units on: pulse, voice, rhythm, music technology and 20<sup>th</sup> century music. As children progress through each unit and year group, they continually revisit, build upon and apply their knowledge and skills in music.

Each unit of work culminates in a performance to showcase the children's understanding, skills and knowledge. Children are skilfully guided to recognise, share and reflect on their peers work and use this feedback to improve their own work.

## 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 school all our children from EYFS and KS1 have the opportunity to take part in 'Rock Steady' bands that allows children to begin to learn an instrument as part of a band. This includes: drums, guitar, keyboards and singing. Two funded places are offered to pupils in receipt of pupil premium and other places are paid for by parents.

Band lessons are taught by a special music specialist within the school day and lessons last for 30 minutes per band. We currently have 4 bands within our school.

The children learn how to play their instrument and play as part of a band and take part in a performance each term. The children perform twice each time to audiences made up of their parents/carers, children and staff.

Videos and photos of these performances are then shared on 'WEDUC', our school-parent communication app. Children are invited to join a Rock Steady band at various points throughout the school year.

Next academic year we are planning to start a choir for Year 2 children which would be free to join and run by school staff. Children will learn how to use vocal warm-ups, learn, practise and perform songs as a group. Children will then perform these songs at special school events, assemblies and wider ensembles.

In the Summer Term of last year we worked with Leicestershire Music on the Music Mark award and received the Silver accreditation. We are currently in the process of working towards our Gold award.

Plans are in place to ensure that music opportunities, such as bands, musical tuition, choirs and performances in the local area, are regularly sign-posted to parents via our

WEDUC app. Some of these opportunities may be free whilst others may have a cost involved which would be paid by parents/carers.

## 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.

Singing performances are used widely in our school to celebrate, learn and enjoy key events and festivals. These provide children with an opportunity to showcase their musical knowledge and skills and learn that music is something to be enjoyed by all.

Children in Key Stage 1 take part in weekly singing assemblies where they learn songs, chants and rhymes which help them to learn and embed singing techniques. During these assemblies, staff also refer to musical terminology that the children know such as tempo, pitch, ostinato, melody, amongst others. This provides another opportunity for children to apply their knowledge.

In EYFS, nursery rhymes and other songs are planned taught progressively to ensure that children experience a wide variety of songs and also have the opportunity to revisit and build confidence with well-known songs and rhymes.

Throughout the year, children have various opportunities to sing and perform in front of an audience. These opportunities are at no cost to the children to take part in.

Children visit our local church to celebrate 3 Christian festivals a year (Harvest, Christmas and Easter). Children learn themed songs and perform them at the church to their peers, parents/carers and church staff/volunteers.

Children in Reception perform a Nativity performance each year which includes many songs that they have learn and rehearsed. They then perform this to their parents/carers as well as other year groups within school.

Children in our school Nursery learn Christmas themed songs which they perform to their parents/carers.

Children in Year 2 visit a local care home and perform a selection of songs that they have learnt to the residents there.

Through singing assemblies and in class, children learn and perform a diverse range songs such as Leaver's performances and songs to support learning in the curriculum such as PSHE, Geography and History fact songs.

In the Autumn Term of this year, we had the Carducci String Quartet come into school and perform for all children, including some children from our Designated Specialist Provision (DSP). This was free and arranged through our strong links with Leicestershire Schools Music Service Hub (LSMS). The children had the opportunity to experience this love music performance as well as have a demonstration of the

instruments from the musicians. The children asked questions and staff highlighted to the children how the musicians had learnt to become such great musicians and some of the job roles that are available to them.

We plan to continue to provide these opportunities over the next academic year.

## In the future

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

1. After achieving the Silver Music Mark award last academic year, we are currently working towards our gold accreditation. As part of this work, as mentioned above, we are looking to improve the support we offer children to identify and take part in music beyond the school day. This includes sign-posting parents to the Junior Choir and inclusive choirs that run locally as well as group and individual instrumental lessons. There is a cost to parents for these activities however, funding of up to 100% is available for pupils who fulfil specific criteria. As part of this work, we endeavour to receive nomination form Leicestershire Music Hub to become a Music Mark School.
2. Another area for development is to increase the children's knowledge about music from other cultures. Plans are in place to celebrate 'World Music Day' which takes place on 21<sup>st</sup> June each year. Our aim is for children to learn/experience the following on this day:
  - Learn which country they are experiencing music from
  - Explore the genre by identifying the tempo, pitch, rhythm, melody using vocabulary that the children are familiar with
  - Find out about the instruments from the given country
  - Listen to music from the given country
  - Learn about famous musicians from the given country
  - Have a go at performing music in this given style
  - Add to an online school 'scrap book' sharing all of the children's learning which can be reviewed in assembly
3. Lastly, to further develop music opportunities for children in our alternative provision classes (DSP and SEND unit)

An overview of our commitment to meeting the Key features of high-quality music provision as set out in the National Plan for Music Education (NPME) is below:

- 1. Timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year**

Children receive weekly taught lessons and singing instruction that amounts to at least one hour per week.

**2. Access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice.**

This will continue to be planned for a delivered following the Leicestershire Music Hub scheme of work. Each year, children have a 'voice' unit of learning.

**3. A school choir and/or vocal ensemble.**

As above (Part B), plans are underway to set-up a Year 2 choir/singing group

**4. A school ensemble/band/group.**

Children have the opportunity to join the Rock Steady bands that happen within school. As mentioned above, further plans are in place to sign-post parents to musical opportunities beyond school.

**5. Space for rehearsals and individual practice.**

Currently, space for rehearsals is in classrooms, the school hall and other smaller spaces within school.

**6. A termly school performance.**

As mentioned above, all children have the opportunity to perform throughout the school year at various events and celebrations. Further, children who take part in the Rock Steady band lesson perform termly concerts in school.

**7. Opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year.**

As mentioned above, this year we had a string quartet perform in our school. Through our links with Leicestershire Music Hub, we will continue to look for opportunities for children to experience live music whether this be in school or elsewhere in the local community. Previously, children in Year 2 have attended 'Key Stage 1 Singing Morning' at De Montfort Hall and this will be considered again.

## Further information (optional)

Parents/carers can find more information about music groups available for their child here: <https://leicestershiremusicshub.org/beginners>

Parents/carers may find it useful to explore the following guide:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people> published by the Department for Education for more information on how to get involved in Music in and out of school.

The Department for Education's document 'The Power of Music to change lives: A National plan for music education can be accessed here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-power-of-music-to-change-lives-a-national-plan-for-music-education>

Further information on Rock Steady band lessons through Rock Steady Music School can be found here: <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/schools/>