

Barnockburn Primary School: Music Development Plan Summary.

Updated October 2025 *this working document is regularly updated. This published version is correct as of the date of publication.*

Music Hub: South East London Music Hub Local Authority Area: Royal Greenwich Music Service

Instrument delivery partner: Greenwich Music School

At Barnockburn we aim to develop all children's core musicianship skills through a holistic, inclusive, approach. By placing practical activity at the heart of our teaching practice children can build on strong foundations based on responding to, performing, and ultimately beginning to create a range of music. Through the curriculum, links with external organisations, and school trips, children gain an understanding of not just music as a subject, but the wider music industry.

Curriculum Music

Curriculum lessons are built around core musical skills being continuously revisited and developed. Responding to music through movement develops strong foundations in EYFS and KS1 on which children can then develop their musical confidence and skills using their voices and a targeted range of instruments as they move through the school.

Music is timetabled to be delivered weekly across the academic year. This comprises of at least a 30-minute curriculum music lesson and a half hour singing assembly. Musical activities also support other areas of the curriculum – for example science in Year 4, poetry in Year 3, computing in Year 2. Class teachers deliver music in Key Stage 1 with support and training from music specialists. Class teachers attend music lessons in Key Stage 2 to support their classes learning and to help with assessment. A Music Specialist delivers a targeted SEND session to EYFS2 and KS1 children, with SEND children also accessing singing and signing interventions at both KS1 and KS2 delivered by TA's

EYFS

Children have access to instruments through continuous provision. Music is used throughout the day to mark routines and support learning. Children take part in musical activities where they develop specific musical skills with a strong focus on responding to music through movement. Reception children attend a dedicated singing assembly weekly, joining with the rest of KS1 later in the academic year.

Key Stage 1

Class teachers deliver music using the Sing Up curriculum, supplemented with resources from BBC Ten Pieces and supported by the music specialists. This curriculum exceeds the national curriculum expectations. Music Specialists deliver singing assemblies, and music assemblies, to support the curriculum.

Children develop their musicianship using their voices, bodies, classroom percussion instruments and glockenspiels.

When possible, children attend a concert in year 2 at either the Barbican Centre or Royal Festival Hall – resources to support this experience are incorporated into their curriculum music lessons.

Key Stage 2

Music specialists deliver weekly lessons of 30 minutes (40 minutes in year 6) and a half hour singing assembly. Lessons use classroom percussion and xylophones using a combination of Sing-Up and bespoke resources to support children to learn how to read and follow music, while exploring a range of genres and traditions.

Children in year 4 learn the Ukulele through whole class ensemble teaching. The Ukulele continues to be used along-side xylophones and class room percussion through years 5 and 6.

Children will visit at least one more concert at the Barbican or Royal Festival Hall – as at KS1, resources to support this experience are incorporated into curriculum lesson time. Occasional visits are made by partner organisations such as the London Symphony Orchestra and Trinity-Laban.

Class teachers support music specialists in music lessons enabling them to deliver lessons in the absence of the music specialist.

Singing Assemblies

Children and their teachers take part in weekly half hour singing assemblies. These sessions support technical vocal development, including warm ups and part singing. Children learn a range of age appropriate songs from different genres which also support topic learning. At KS1, simple repetitive songs develop pitch, an understanding of vocal tone, basic part singing, and children's listening skills. Though KS2, song choice builds on the vocal foundations developing harmony singing, adapting vocal tone and phrasing. The school uses Sing Up as the foundation for singing assemblies, supplemented by other singing resources.

Co-curricular and Musical Experiences

Performances

Children perform across the year. Each year group takes part in a Christmas performance, and each class creates a performance for Arts Weeks. International evening gives the opportunity for children to showcase activity they take part in outside of school.

We also create 'online' performances, and Year 4 demonstrate their Ukulele learning in an informal parent assembly.

Children perform at the school fairs.

Year 6 produce a 'leavers show' each year.

Choir

Choir is open to all children in year 5 and 6, and takes place during the school day to allow all children to attend, and children are not expected to audition. The choir takes part in events such as the Royal Greenwich Music Service singing spectacular as well as at external events around the borough.

Instrumental opportunities

We have partnered with Greenwich Music School to provide violin and guitar lessons from Summer 1 2025. Lessons are currently offered from Y3-Y6 in small groups with the option of 1:1 lesson. Children are able to use school instruments in lesson times. www.greenwichmusicschool.org.uk.

CIOC are offered fully funded access to instrumental lessons through the Royal Greenwich Virtual School.

We offer steel pans as an after-school club.

Wider curriculum

Music appears across our curriculum. Examples of this include:

- Topic immersion days each term often including a music session, for e.g. pre-teaching of key vocabulary by creating rhythm patterns; recalling the parts of a volcano and creating musical ideas to represent a volcanic eruption.
- Chrome Lab in year 2 computing; using recording technology in year 5 (podcasts)
- Story telling in music as a year 2 topic.
- Links to science and English.

Live music

Both music specialists play their instruments in curriculum lessons, and SEND interventions. Children attend concerts given by the London Symphony Orchestra and the London Philharmonic Orchestra (The LSO have also visited the school on several occasions). Students from Trinity Laban visit the school to perform, and children hear the peripatetic music teachers perform in assemblies. Children also hear their peers perform.

Quality online performances are used in curriculum lessons.

Royal Greenwich Music Service (Part of the South East London Music Education Hub)

RGMS offers provision at Royal Greenwich Music Centres. These take place on a Wednesday evening and Saturday morning. Places are fully subsidised for Pupil Premium children and instrument hire is also offered. The South East London Music Hub remittance policy can be found here:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/667acc105fd46b4d2bdd7958/t/67e2a87122c5377ff2349417/1742907517927/SELMH+-+Charging+and+Remissions+Policy.pdf>.

For more information email music-service@royalgreenwich.gov.uk.

Areas we are developing

- Bannockburn are actively looking to increase local links to provide our children with the opportunity to experience live music. We are working more closely with Woolwich Poly Girls and Woolwich Poly Boys school to develop further opportunities for our children to take part in performances; as well as creating opportunities for children to create 'virtual' performances linked to arts week and other areas of the curriculum.
- Increased community links with local organisations.
- Guitar and Violin ensemble for children taking part in instrumental lessons
- Music in the playground: developing a range of child led activities for playground time.
- Instrumental provision at KS1 and increased range of instruments available across the school.