Music development plan summary:
Blackheath Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	November 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	November 2026
Name of the school music lead	L Plimmer M Hytch E Horton (EYFS)
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	M Hytch
Name of local music hub	SIPS Education Ltd.
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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.

Our current Music curriculum is aligned with the National Curriculum for Music and the non-statutory Model Music Curriculum (MMC) guidance, published by the Department for Education in 2021.

This scheme is taught using Kapow as a teaching tool. It provides clearly sequenced units and lessons that support each year group. We use Kapow's lesson plans and resources to deliver every lesson, ensuring that key learning, knowledge, and skills underpin each session.

Our scheme follows a spiral approach to musical learning, with children revisiting, building, and extending their knowledge and skills incrementally. In this way, their learning is consolidated and deepened, increasing musical confidence and enabling them to progress further. Teachers are encouraged to adapt their teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of the children they teach.

Our philosophy of music education is based on the principle that it should be fun, engaging, and accessible for all, and that every child is a born musician. Music plays a role in every aspect of our lives, wherever and whoever we are. For this reason, we divide the academic year into four units, with additional musical tuition provided for various year groups.

Our scheme is designed for children aged 5–11, with four units per year. Each unit is structured into five lessons, followed by a smaller sixth lesson that serves as a performance opportunity—either for other classes or during school assemblies.
Each lesson follows an easy-to-use structure, supported by a wide range of documents, lesson plans, and resources that develop children's skills in listening, singing, performing, composing, and improvising.

The resources provided are inclusive and accessible for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Teaching is carefully planned and arranged so that pupils with SEND are not treated less favourably than their peers and can fully participate. Disabled musicians have equal access to the music curriculum through scaffolding, adaptive teaching methods, and a wide range of resources. They are encouraged to listen to music during lessons and to learn through modelling by staff and peers, giving them meaningful opportunities to respond in ways that align with their individual abilities.

The music subject leaders continually develop and enhance the school's music scheme through collaboration with the SIPS Education Hub, working together to monitor provision and provide high-quality CPD to strengthen teaching and learning.

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.

Children in Upper Key Stage 2 have the opportunity to take part in the school choir, which is open to all abilities and groups. It is free of charge, ensuring equal opportunities for participation regardless of SEND or pupil premium eligibility.

Rehearsals take place once a week during lunchtime in the Year 1 classroom with the Music Leader. Choir members then have the opportunity to sing and perform at least once per term. These performances take place both on and off site, and have included events such as Sandwell Sings at Christmas, the school Christmas Carol Concert, performances at a local care home, the summer fayre, and even the annual school talent show.

Beyond the choir, all year groups sing and perform Christmas songs for the annual Christmas Carol Concert, performing to other year groups within the school.
In addition, Year 2 visit the local church once a year to lead a Christmas carol service, during which they sing together as a group.

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.

Children also sing during assemblies, choosing from a variety of songs provided by Out of the Ark and Sing Up. These platforms offer a vast catalogue of songs appropriate to the season or time of year. All children have the opportunity to sing together as an ensemble during these assemblies.

The school choir sings regularly at wider events and occasions. They perform with other schools at Christmas, take part in the Christmas Fayre, the annual Christmas Carol Concert, and a private concert for parents and carers, both on and off site.

The school choir also sings and performs in the final assembly before Easter, marking the end of the spring term with a celebratory performance.

In addition, the choir performs during the annual school talent show and at the school's summer fayre. Songs are chosen to reflect the current season and topical themes, while also drawing from a wider repertoire of music. None of these events involve an admission fee or charge to see the choir perform.

Every year group is given a Christmas carol to practise and prepare for the school Christmas Carol Concert. All year groups come together to perform their songs for the rest of the school, supported by rehearsals led by the Music Lead.

Blackheath's Got Talent, the school's annual talent show, provides an opportunity for children to sing as part of their own act and to showcase their musical and performance skills.

Year 6 lead the school in the annual Remembrance Day assembly, during which they sing a reflective song. Years 2, 4, and 6 also perform as part of their graduation assemblies, while Nursery and Reception sing during their Christmas plays.

Throughout the year, year groups perform songs during their topic assemblies for parents and carers, celebrating learning across the curriculum through music and performance.

In the future

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

Increase the number of musical instruments available to children beyond glockenspiels, providing a wider range for playing, improvising, composing, and performing through access to keyboards within the curriculum.

Continue to provide opportunities outside the curriculum for children to learn to play tuned instruments such as guitars and other string instruments through in-class tuition.

Provide opportunities, both on and off site, for children to experience concert-quality

performances by professional musicians.

Build on performance opportunities for pupils by enabling them to perform in larger public forums. For example, we will be taking part in Sandwell Sings again this year.

Further information (optional)

The school is aware of the following and is using these to develop the curriculum accordingly:

- Non-Statutory Guidance for Music (DfE, 2021) - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6061f833d3bf7f5ce1060a90/Model_Music_Curriculum_Full.pdf
- 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.
- SIPS Education Music Webpage https://www.sips.co.uk/our-solutions/music-and-arts/
- DfE Policy Paper: *The power of music to change lives: a national plan for music education*. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/62bc1242d3bf7f292040d364/The_Power_of_Music_to_Change_Lives.pdf (2022)
- Kapow Music Scheme: Music Scheme of Work, Lesson Plans, Resources and CPD