



Music Development Plan

Date Last Reviewed: July 2024
Next Review Date: July 2025
Audience: **Open**

Contents

Overview	2
Part A: Curriculum music	3
Part B: Co-curricular music	4
Part C: Musical experiences	4
In the future	5

Newnham Junior School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	7.6.24
Date this summary will be reviewed	7.6.25
Name of the school music lead	Sheila Wood
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	London West Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

Newnham Junior School

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 Newnham, every class has a weekly 40 – 60 minute class music lesson, taught by a highly experienced specialist. In addition, a weekly whole school Singing Practice allows children to develop their singing skills. Termly lesson content plans are published on our website [CURRICULUM PLANS | newnham-juniors](#) and allow children to explore the music ideals set out in *The power of music to change lives: a national plan for music education* (2024).

Current focus includes ensuring our SEND children have access to high quality musical experiences, adapting where necessary (for example, the use of headphones, quieter areas to practise, additional adults during the lesson, rest breaks).

Children at Newnham learn how to read music progressively through the school. By the end of Year 5, the intention is that all children can read the treble clef notes FACE and EGBDF, and understand a range of note values. Elements of the Kodaly approach are used. The school uses bass, tenor and soprano xylophones and glockenspiels for this purpose.

Termly, children have the chance to explore improvisation skills, based on the works of influential composers (for example: Ravi Shankar, Steve Reich, Purcell).

We develop singing voices using sol-fa and constant revisiting of familiar songs. Children are given the opportunity to hear themselves sing individually at the start of every lesson.

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.

In collaboration with the newly formed London West Music Hub, children are offered the opportunity to learn a brass or upper string instrument. These children learn in small groups or individually, according to progress being made. Additionally, these children have the chance to extend ensemble skills through the hub's Hillingdon Music School Saturday and evening groups. More information can be found [HERE](#) (create link)

Guitar lessons are currently offered by an outside provider. We also have a popular ukulele club during school time and a small school orchestra which accommodates those children who learn orchestral instruments beyond the local hub.

Children in Year 6 have the opportunity to participate in the annual Young Voices concert, held at the O2 arena. There are optional costs (T-shirt and audience tickets) but it is essentially free (including travel).

Newnham offers two choirs; Lower and Upper School, with opportunities to sing locally in the community and in collaboration with the hub. Both choirs are non-auditioning, can take unlimited numbers and are extremely popular.

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.

Each year, children in Year 3 perform a nativity play to families/carers in the school hall. Years 4 and 5 present a short "Class Assembly" and the Year 6 children take part in a Carol Concert at a local church. All are free to attend. Additionally, Year 6 children hire a local performing venue for their end of year production. Tickets are sold in order to help cover the costs.

Our *Music for a Summer's Evening* is a celebration of instrumental and vocal talent from across the whole school. It takes place in the school hall and is free.

Years 4, 5 and 6 have the opportunity to perform to the peers in our series of *Lunchtime Concerts*, run almost entirely by our team of music prefects.

In the future

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

At Newnham, we are considering how to increase the number of children who have access to an orchestral instrument. This is almost entirely related to funding.

Additionally, we would like to explore ways to incorporate the use of music technology whilst not losing access to practical music-making on the classroom instruments.

The music co-ordinator continues to seek out opportunities for children to experience high quality live music performances, either through visitors to the school or by offering trips to music venues.

With over 100 children involved with a choir, we are always looking for further (manageable) opportunities to take our singing into the community.