

Music development plan summary: Great Sampford Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/2026
Date this summary was published	July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Kathy Swain
Name of local music hub	Essex

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 Great Sampford, we offer all children in Key Stage 2 an hour of music education a week. Key stage 1 receives the equivalent of 1 hour a week, taught as a week-long unit of learning. Our EYFS children have music education integrated throughout their learning, every week. This is delivered by class teachers and skilled musicians.

At Great Sampford, our music curriculum follows the National Curriculum and is inspired by Sing Up and the Model Music Curriculum. Music from a broad range of genres, cultures and time periods is taught throughout the school. This year, our school has focussed increasing the breadth of diversity in our curriculum. We endeavour to study music and musicians from a range of different backgrounds.

The Y3/4 children have whole class recorder ensemble lessons for an entire term. This ensures all children have the opportunity to learn an instrument through regular lessons. Y5/6 children have a particular focus on using music technology, preparing them for their continued music education as they move in Key Stage 3.

Whole School Weekly singing assemblies are attended by the whole school, lasting 20 minutes.

Please find out Music Curriculum here:

<https://www.greatsampford.essex.sch.uk/page/?title=Music&pid=85>

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 Great Sampford, we currently offer individual and small group lessons for a range of instruments, including piano, drums, and guitar. These lessons are delivered by peripatetic teachers who utilise our dedicated music practise room. Individual and small group lessons are funded by parents, however, for those children who are pupil premium, alternative arrangements can be made to ensure access.

We have a thriving choir which meets weekly. This is open to all year groups and is free of charge. We now take our choir to the Young Voices concert, with around half the children attending each year. We also attend other singing opportunities, such as the local carol concert.

Children have opportunities to sing and dance during our weekly 'boom box' session at lunchtime. Lastly, our children enjoy taking part in a Christmas production, music performances and Summer concert which are performed to parents and peers.

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.

Throughout the year, our children have various opportunities to perform and sing in and out of school. Children will perform during our harvest and Christingle service. Children from R-Y4 will perform in our Christmas production whilst Y5/6 produce an end of year play. All children participate in our Summer concert. Here children perform as individuals, classes and the whole school. Many children choose to attend the Young Voices choir in London.

Our Y1/2 children attend performances at Saffron Hall. This has included Yolanda's Bandjam.

Y3/4 attend the Thaxted Musical festival. The children watch performances, have opportunities to talk to conductors and musicians and ask questions about instruments and genres.

The London Mozart Players visited our school to run a two day workshop. The whole school watched a performance from the players. Children in KS2 worked in groups to compose a piece inspired by the elements. Parents were then invited to watch the performance.

We have strong links with a local composer who often writes songs for our events and helps the children to rehearse his pieces. This year, he wrote 'A Song for Great Sampford School' which we will be using to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the school.

In the future

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

In the future, we are plan to continue building more diversity into our music curriculum. We would like to offer a wider range of instrument tuition and form stronger links with external music organisations who can offer instrument rentals. We also hope to reach out to the local community more, inviting musicians into school for performance and participating in local performances, such as the 150th anniversary of the school.