

Music development plan summary: Sulhamstead & Ufton Nervet CE (VA) Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Melissa Kennedy
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Berkshire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s)	i-Rock, Berkshire Music Trust

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – **curriculum music, extra-curricular provision and musical experiences and events** – 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.

To read in more detail about the provision music at Sulhamstead & Ufton Nervet CE Primary School, please visit our music curriculum page: <https://www.sun.w-berks.sch.uk/Music/>

Music is taught in class every week and is informed by the model music curriculum (March 2021). Lessons are a minimum of 40 minutes and are taught by class teachers or a music specialist. Teaching is supported by specialist planning, and the Kapow Music scheme of learning. This musical learning is further supplemented by weekly singing assemblies for all children, with percussionists enjoying the opportunity to supplement the singing. Children in Ash Class (Years 3&4) learn an instrument as a whole-class ensemble taught by music specialists from Berkshire Music Trust as part of the Wider Opportunities programme. Each project lasts 10 weeks and culminates in a concert where children perform songs and pieces together.

Part B: Extra-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.

As part of our pledge to further develop engagement in extra-curricular music for Pupil Premium and SEND children, we encourage further participation in instrument learning for our children eligible for PPG funding and through scholarships.

All children have the option of learning an instrument through Berkshire Music Trust (<https://www.berksmusictrust.org.uk/>) or have the opportunity through i-Rock, (<https://www.irockschool.com/>) to create a band, practice and perform in front of an audience during the school day. This can be subsidised for some of our children eligible for PPG funding.

Current pupils are learning a range of instruments including piano and guitar in our music room in school, through links with Berkshire Music Trust. These can be taught in a group situation or individually. We can offer subsidised music lessons through our affiliation with Berkshire Music Trust for those children eligible for Targeted FSM funding.

As part of our pledges to introduce further whole-class and/or group ensemble projects delivered by a music specialist, and to develop our peripatetic music teachers who enhance our curriculum, we have introduced a Choir Club and Individual Singing Lessons run by a visiting vocal coach, this is available for all pupils at an additional cost, which can be funded if parents are eligible for Targeted FSM funding.

We have dedicated musicians who teach music as a whole class, and a school choir who perform at the Junior Music Festival each year at The Hexagon Theatre in Reading, in partnership with many other local primary schools.

We collaborate with our local secondary school, The Willink, to share good practice, resources, opportunities and Year 10 and 11 GCSE music pupils are invited to perform termly for us at S.U.N.

We also have members of the National Youth Orchestra who perform for us, sharing their enthusiasm and passion for music.

During our weekly Singing Assemblies, we have a group of percussionists who perform alongside our singing using a range of un-tuned instruments.

Those children who learn an instrument, have the opportunity to play the piano or other instrument whilst the children enter and leave the hall at the beginning and end of assemblies and at celebration events throughout the school year. With close links to St. Mary's Church in Sulhamstead, children have many opportunities to perform in church, and use the church bells and hand bells.

We use Kapow Music, Sing-Up, BBC and Out Of The Ark resources, amongst others, to enhance our teaching and learning through the school, both in and out of our regular curriculum.

Part C: Musical experiences and events

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.

As part of our pledge to further develop performance opportunities for our young musicians throughout the school year, children will have the opportunity to perform or experience high quality music this academic year. Please see below for a list of those opportunities:

- KS2 choir annual performance at The Hexagon
- Whole school Harvest Festival performance at St. Mary's Church
- Children in Acorns (EYFS) perform a nativity at Christmas, with the whole school performing at St. Mary's Church at our Christmas Carol Concert
- Children in Oak (Y1 & Y2) perform an Easter play, with the whole school performing at St. Mary's Church at our Easter Service
- Our whole school show our appreciation for all the care and support from our parents and carers by performing at our Grandparent's Day in December, Mother's Day Tea in March and Father's Day Brunch in June.
- Children in Ash and Sycamore perform at the end of the summer term in their end of year play; this year 'Secrets of Blackwood Manor' brought the end of the year to a close. This production was written, directed and choreographed by Mrs La Fevre, one of our talented members of staff.
- Across the school year, our i-Rock bands and children learning an instrument perform to the whole school in their end of term concerts.
- We welcome visitors from across the world to perform – such as the Ghanaian Drummers, Bollywood performers and workshops and Berkshire Music Trust Ensembles from past years.
- Every year we all visit The Watermill Theatre in Newbury to enjoy their Christmas production/pantomime/musical, or have a visiting Pantomime to enable the children to participate in a live production.
- Every day in our Collective Worship we have music from our Musician of the Month, with an introductory session on their life and music, for example David Bowie, Nina Simone and Beethoven. Parent information sheets are sent home to encourage

continuation of learning about the wide range of artists the children learn about and enjoy across the year.

- Our 'Carols Around the Tree' event is a new collaboration between the church, local community and school, taking place just before Christmas.
- For the third year in a row, we have been presented with the Music Mark in recognition of our dedication to supporting the importance of music learning across the school.

In the future

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

In future years, our Music Development Plan aims to achieve the following:

- Introduction of a wider range of instruments on offer for small group or individual lessons. Such as recorders and/or ukuleles
- To develop staff music skills through CPD in order to broaden music teaching capacity
- Continually review and improve our music curriculum to ensure relevant, consistent and progress develops from Reception through to Year 6.
- Continue to develop engagement in extra-curricular music for Pupil Premium and SEND children by encouraging further participation in instrument learning for our children eligible for PPG funding and through scholarships.
- Develop our dedicated music teaching space further for use by ensembles and 1:1 tuition.