



Our Music Development Plan



Head



Heart



Hand

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Emily Burrell

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

At Lady Joanna Thornhill (Endowed) Primary School we follow the model music curriculum on Charanga, led by a resident musician specialist teacher. Music lessons encompass four key strands: listening and appraising; singing and performing; composing and improvising; and playing and notation. Pupils receive a minimum of an hour of music education each week, creatively timetabled to ensure effective delivery. Year 4 and Year 5 benefit from whole-class instrumental lessons, while Year 6 engages in a 'double' music unit in Term 6. Our music curriculum is available to view on our website detailing intent and implementation. A link to this can be found here:
<https://www.ladyj.kent.sch.uk/music/>

As a school we have revised our teaching and learning guide materials to support teachers in delivering this curriculum. This also covers supporting pupils with special educational needs (SEND). We also have a Music Pathway that has been shared with teachers highlighting the additional activities or resources pupils should be encouraged to take advantage of within our school in order to develop their potential.

Our next steps:

- To further develop opportunities for cross-curricular integration to reinforce music learning in other subjects.
- To refine and further develop drumming skills and dynamics throughout the school music curriculum

Part B: Extra-curricular music

At Lady Joanna Thornhill (Endowed) Primary School, the extra-curricular music programme is a notable strength, featuring a choir, peripatetic instrument options, a music-tech club, and a resident musician specialist teacher. Our range of musical instruments for peripatetic teaching cater to diverse pupil interests. Our choir and music-tech clubs are planned in a way that encourages as many pupils as possible to attend as they are run as an open lunchtime club offers. We are committed to creating a love for the magic of music through inspiring opportunities to listen to and respond to, explore, experience and devise their very own range of musical experiences, as a listener, singer and performer. All pupils experience learning a musical instrument, through peripatetic teaching or as part of their two-year focus on ukuleles. We have a dedicated Performing Arts studio and a newly built stage to practise and rehearse. We work with a professional organisation called 'RockSteady' to coach pupils into becoming band members and playing their musical instruments as a group. This is paid for by families wishing to undertake this additional opportunity and we have match-funding for our pupils who have Pupil Premium funding in place.

Our next steps:

- To develop further offers for excellence in music, for example the establishment of a Chamber Choir
- To explore the possibilities of enhanced drumming skills and provision across the school in an extra-curricular context, for example through the introduction of a samba drumming group

Part C: Musical Experiences

At Lady Joanna Thornhill (Endowed) Primary School we offer enriching musical experiences, including biannual participation in 'Young Voices' at the O2 stadium and collaborations with the CARE group for performances. Pupils also engage in theatrical performances facilitated by in-house experts and dance teachers at the end of each Key Stage. We enhance community engagement by organising musical events that involve local residents and organisations. We work with our CARE group to participate in wider performances such as 'Carols by Candlelight' and share resources for travel and finding these opportunities for our pupils. Year 5 and 6 are invited to a Kent Music summer event outside of school hours and pupils delight in a variety of performances during class assemblies, theatre workshops, summer and Christmas fayre performances and our annual open evening as well as events such as the 'Wye Street Party' and singing at a local residential home for elderly people in our community.

In addition to the above, all students participate in a dedicated Singing Assembly weekly. We also offer regular showcases or assemblies for our pupils to demonstrate their musical progress and skills to the school community.

Our next steps:

- To introduce workshops or masterclasses led by industry professionals to enhance pupils' skills and knowledge

- Incorporate more diverse musical genres and styles into the school's performance repertoire to broaden pupils' musical horizons.

Part D: Future Plans

Lady Joanna Thornhill (Endowed) Primary School is dedicated to building on its strong foundation for music education. Future plans include further collaboration with Kent Music through professional development opportunities. Other next steps are outlined under the different sections of the plan above.

Final next steps:

- Establish ongoing professional development initiatives for staff to enhance music teaching practices and methodologies.
- Explore additional partnerships with music hubs or organisations to expand students' access to diverse musical experiences and resources.