Music development plan summary: Great Missenden Combined School

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Liz Kirton
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Johnny Magee
Name of local music hub	Buckinghamshire Music Trust (BMT)
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.

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.

How do staff deliver music in school?

- Lessons are delivered by a specialist music teacher from pre-school through to year 6. Children have at least 1 hour a week of music.
- Lessons take place in a dedicated music room with a great selection of resources. Children have the option to sign up for a range of music and performing arts clubs.
- In addition to this,there is a 30 minute singing assembly for the whole school, each Thursday.

How is the music curriculum structured?

- The National Curriculum is followed for KS1 and 2

- The Model Music Curriculum (MMC) is referenced in our planning and helps to form the musical skills progression we follow (in curriculum folder)

- Aing up provides a progression pland for EYFS – KS2 which is incorporated into the music planning. This is complemented with BBC bitesize

- We aim to cover a diverse range of composers 948xmsucian/composer of thr month across KS2)

- Every child will take part in at least one performance in front of an audience per academic year (many take part in far more than one)

- Whole Class practical music lessons in year 3, 4, and 5 take place for an entire term (ukulele, keyboard and band skills)

- Please find more information regarding our music curriculum progression and scheme of work/music topics at https://www.greatmissendenschool.co.uk/music-curriculum-information/ and on the main music page of our Website: https://www.greatmissendenschool.co.uk/music/

What can we expect to see in the classroom in a music lesson?

- Learning through practical music and/or singing in every lesson using our wide range of musical instruments, composition and performance

- A good understanding of behavioural expectations, in particular in relation to instrument use

- Diversity/equality in music is very important to us at Great Missenden and it is always considered in planning and lesson delivery

- Children feeling challenged but confident, happy and able to make music

What does feedback and assessment look like?

- Music assessment looks for an incremental improvement of musicality, knowledge, skills, posture and confidence.

- The vast majority of feedback is verbal in music. Structured/balanced peer feedback is encouraged as part of our music learning especially in KS2 and children are asked to self -reflect upon performances/achievements/compositions. Praise is given alongside movement up, and down the behaviour charts. Class teachers are also informed of excellent work so that children can be considered for awards such as head teachers award or the weekly brilliant book.

- Children are assessed half termly (or at the end of a unit of work) and this is recorded via videos and marking diary. At the end of the year this assessment date/information is collated and children are given an end of year grade for music.

How do you support and challenge pupils in music?

- There can be a diverse range of abilities/knowledge and skills in music especially in UKS2 where children might be learning an instrument/taking part in music clubs outside school. We often have some grade 4/5 musicians in year 6 who are capable of working beyond KS2 curriculum.

- Tasks are differentiated for independent work. Sometimes in UKS2 this does mean working beyond KS2 curriculum or using ABRSM/RSL music theory material to stretch those who read music well. Eg: Bass clef activities given to a child who plays a treble clef instrument. Children learn a chord progression on an unfamiliar instrument or set timed challenges to improve speed of recognition in order to diversify and build on skills.

- Where children are working in groups, specific roles are assigned to particular children. Working in mixed ability groups selected by the teacher; more able children will be stretched to take a leadership role, giving children opportunity to foster new skills such as conducting a group or taking the lead with structuring a composition.

- Other members of the group will benefit from working with a more experienced peer. The teacher will often use group working as an opportunity to take a lower ability group to work with them more individually and lead and develop those who are struggling in a particular area

- SEND children are fully supported and will participate/undertake the same tasks alongside their peers with support from LSAs, music teacher and scaffolding.

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.

- After School Music Clubs

The following after school music clubs are offered at a cost of £33 per term.

  - Choir
  - Y6 Rock Band

- Lunch time busking
- All music is provided by the school. Rock Band are invitation/audition entry clubs, but choir is open to all children.
- The specialist music teacher also runs adhoc lunchtime rehearsal/clubs. These can be one off singing or composition projects, extra production rehearsal slots, and occasionally lunchtime concerts presented by the children.
- There is a whole school talent show in the summer term, which all children are eligible to enter.
- Concerts and performance opportunities
- All children have chance to perform on stage in front of an audience every year. In 2025-26 the concert schedule was as follows:
  - Little Missenden Festival Concert (all Y2 children took part)
  - Christingle Service (all EYFS children took part) Nativity (all KS1 children took part)
  - Carol Service (all Y3 children took part)
  - Easter Service (all Y4 children took part)
  - Young Voices at O2 (all y5 children took part in rehearsals and were offered chance to participate in concert)
  - Y6 Production (all Y6 children took part)
  - Summer Fair Performance (all children rehearsed for this and performance was optional, but open to all. Approximately 50% of the school attend performance)

Additional optional Performance opportunities:

- Christmas Carol Singing – separate community carol singing opportunities were available to whole school (week-end and evening).
- Church Services – The church arranges a termly family service, where children participate through singing, instru-mental work and leading the readings through the service.
- Christmas Performing Arts Concert – All music clubs perform
- Rock Band Concerts to parents. Perform to whole school community and at the summer fair in summer term.

Orchestra and Instrumental showcase – Children in orchestra perform at this concert as an ensemble, with the option to also perform solos on their instrument/s. This year everyone did perform as a soloist.

Bucks Music Trust make the following provisions open to pupils at our school:

- Visiting Instrumental teachers
- Saturday and after school music centre clubs, ensembles and lessons

Peripatetic instrumental lessons

Instrumental lessons are available to take during the school day for KS2 children. Teachers are provided by Buckinghamshire Music Trust, who complete all admin and lesson scheduling. A wide range of instruments are available to learn as an individual lesson, in pairs or small groups. Instrumental teachers actively share their instrument with the wider school through showcases and assemblies, so that all children are aware of the instruments they could learn. Instrumental lessons are available at a cost to parents, Bucks Music Trust make allowances for PP children and other special circumstances.

Instruments can be hired from BMT a reasonable cost.

BMT Music Centre Saturday and After School Provision

For those children who want to become more involved with music outside school, BMT offer lessons and instrumental groups after school and on Saturdays at Amersham, Wycombe and Aylesbury Music Centres.

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.

In 2026 the following musical experiences were open to the children:

- Little Missenden Festival children's workshops. A series of workshops for the children to work with other schools learning 8 songs from the 'Dark Winds' musical. External musicians to come in half term to assist with drama and overall performance.
- Young Voices – Year 5 not only got to experience singing at The O2, but they also had opportunity to hear live music from a range of performers as part of this. KS2 children all had opportunity to meet the Creative Director of Young Voices when he came to deliver an inspirational assembly at our school.
- Parent Performances - We have a number of parents at the school who are professional musicians. They have supported with ad hoc workshops and concerts to various year groups over the past 5 years. The parent community are very supportive of the performing arts at Great Missenden.

In the future

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

- to encourage children to take up instruments that are in national shortage
- to develop strong links with secondary schools to ensure transition is smooth.
- increase the use of Oracy in music lessons