Palm Bay Music Development Plan Summary Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Claire Storey
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Francesca O'Carroll (Non-Core Curriculum Lead)
Name of local music hub	Kent and Medway 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.

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.

Palm Bay Primary School is committed to providing an inclusive, rich and inspiring music and arts education for every pupil. Through our school intent statement, we aim to nurture creativity, confidence and self-expression, ensuring all children have opportunities to experience, appreciate and participate in music, dance and drama. We recognise the arts as an essential part of cultural capital, broadening pupils' horizons, celebrating diverse cultures and helping every child discover and develop their individual talents.

Our commitment to musical development is further enhanced through specialist instrumental lessons delivered by visiting peripatetic teachers across the week, giving pupils opportunities to develop their musical abilities and experience the joy of learning an instrument.

Our whole-school music curriculum is carefully planned to ensure full coverage of the National Curriculum, providing all pupils with a rich, progressive and engaging musical education. Children have access to a well-resourced specialist music room, equipped with a wide range of instruments that encourage exploration, experimentation, creativity and practical music-making.

You can see the school overview on our school website at https://palmbay.uk/Learning/Music/. Palm Bay Primary School uses the base Music Scheme Get Set 4 Music taught weekly. This has been enhanced by whole-class music opportunities provided by our EKC Schools Trust, specialist individual music teachers and additional performing opportunities for each year group.

The school has a skills progression from Reception to Year 6 and has five main components: listening and appraising, singing, playing, composing and performing.

Music in the Early Years:
The children begin their music journey in Reception through Child Initiated activities and planned curriculum music, through Get Set 4 Music. They explore singing, playing and composing. They have access to a range of musical instruments to explore both in and out of doors. The children learn Nursery Rhymes and short rhythms and patterns. Music is on the school timetable for 1 hour a week, which is a combination of music lessons, singing and assemblies.

Key Stage 1 and 2
Music in Key Stage 1 and 2 is timetabled for one hour every week. This includes a music lesson, singing and music enrichment clubs including choir and music lessons. As the curriculum progresses, the children have a wider
access to a range of whole class instruments; these include glockenspiels, recorders and percussion. Lessons are planned to allow children to explore singing, composing and performing. At the end of each unit of learning the children learn to sing and perform.

Pupils with SEND are supported throughout the curriculum. We are committed to ensuring that every child can access, participate in and enjoy music-making. Teaching is thoughtfully adapted to meet individual needs. This may include instruments of different sizes and adaptations for pupils to meet their needs. Teachers plan adaptations to ensure that all pupils feel valued, included and able to develop their musical skills.

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.

The children at Palm Bay Primary School have a wide range of choice when choosing an instrument to play outside of lesson time. Lessons are run by a range of peripatetic teachers, all are private teachers.

We offer a range of individual lessons and some group lessons. We try to start these lessons as young as possible to support their musical journey throughout school. There is a cost for these lessons. Some of our Pupil Premium pupils have their lessons funded by the school. There is a specialised music room available for lessons that can be used as rehearsal spaces.

We have a school choir led by a specialist choir lead, for children from Year 2-6 who meet weekly to practice. We take part in a number of events throughout the year including attending Young Voices. There are many opportunities for children to perform both within our EKC Schools Trust and in the local community.

Our extensive programme of after-school clubs provides pupils with exciting opportunities to explore, develop and celebrate their talents across the performing arts. From Musical Theatre and Young Voices Choir to Brit Choir, Ballet and Shakespeare productions, children are encouraged to discover new interests, build confidence and express themselves creatively. With opportunities available for pupils from Year 1 to Year 6, we aim to ensure every child has the chance to experience the joy of performing, develop their skills and explore their passion for music and the arts.

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.

At Palm Bay Primary School, we see performance as an integral part of musicianship. All children who learn to play an instrument, get the opportunity to play in front of the school. We have a number of visitors into school to provide the children with a range of experiences. This includes musical theatre groups. cultural dance groups and local bands.

Every child will have the opportunity to perform to an audience, including their families at least once a year.

EYFS and KS1 take part in annual nativities
Year 3-5 take part in a year group performance
Year 6 take part in an end of year production

The EKC Schools Trust holds an annual performance event, which has included an EKC Talent Show, providing pupils with the opportunity to showcase their talents to the wider school community and across the Trust.

We are also members of the Royal Shakespeare Company's Associate Schools Programme and Shakespeare for Schools Programme which gives the children the opportunity to perform on professional stages. This included performing in front of over 1000 people at the Marlowe Theatre last year.

In the future

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

- To continue to develop our teacher subject knowledge and confidence teaching music curriculum
- To increase the opportunities for children to perform in front of an audience.
- To increase the opportunities for cultural performances.
- To develop the school choir and provide opportunities to take part in local community events
- To develop opportunities for children who play instruments to create groups i.e. school rock band