



## Music development plan summary: Howletch Lane Primary School

### Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/2026
Date this summary was published	30 <sup>th</sup> September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Thomas Mitchell
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Lisa Crombie
Name of local music hub	Durham Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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


At Howletch Lane Primary School, music is an integral part of our Learning Means the World thematic units, ensuring that it is taught consistently across all year groups. Our curriculum aims to engage and inspire pupils by reflecting diverse cultures and societies, fostering an appreciation and understanding of a wide range of musical traditions.

Music at Howletch encourages teamwork and helps build positive relationships by providing pupils with shared, collaborative experiences. Recognising music as a universal language, it enables pupils to break down barriers and communicate beyond words. Pupils are encouraged to express their feelings and ideas creatively through composition and performance.

Our curriculum also includes learning about different historical periods, genres, and renowned composers and musicians, helping pupils understand the importance of music's place in society.




Additionally, specialist instrumental teaching is provided through peripatetic tutors, enriching our curriculum offer. We are committed to embedding a clear and coherent curriculum overview that supports progression and deepens pupils' musical knowledge and skills over time.



The music curriculum subject overview below shows which thematic units feature the subject:



**CURRICULUM SUBJECTS OVERVIEW**

**MUSIC**

Learning Pathways	C		C		C		C	
 <b>Pathfinders</b>	<b>Unity in the Community</b> Signs and Symbols	<b>Land Ahoy! / The Beachcombers</b> Singing Soundscape	<b>Zero to Hero/One Day, Many Ways</b> Cheerleading (Zero to Hero)/Singing (One Day, Many Ways)	<b>Come Fly With Me! The Arctic Circle</b> Singing Inuit Throat Singing	<b>Happily Ever After</b> Sound FX	<b>Inter-Nation Media Station/- Mobile Mystery</b> Jingles (INMS)/ Ringtones (Mobile Mystery)	<b>Going Wild</b> African Music Jungle Soundtrack	<b>Light Up the World/Skip of the Dump</b> Light and Dark
 <b>Adventurers</b>	<b>Athens v Sparta</b>	<b>Law and Order /Operation Pied Piper</b> Time Rules	<b>A World of Difference/Cry Freedom</b> Hannukah Cry Freedom - Coded Songs	<b>Come Fly With Me! Africa</b> African Music	<b>That's All Folks!/Hot Off the Press</b> Hot Off the Press! Notation and Composition (No Music in That's All Folks!)	<b>Lightning Speed</b> Speed Fiends	<b>Picture Our Planet</b> Celtic Music	<b>Under The Canopy</b> Rumble in the Jungle
 <b>Navigators</b>	<b>Wars of the World/Clash of the Titans</b> War Songs	<b>You're Not Invited</b> Battle Chants and Soundscape	<b>I Have a Dream...</b> Folk Music Slave Songs	<b>Come Fly With Me! America /Cosmopolitan</b> National Anthems	<b>Mission Control</b> Cyclic Patterns Musicals	<b>A World of Bright Ideas</b> Evolution of Instruments	<b>Full of Beans/Too Hot to Handle</b>	<b>Global Warning</b> 'Global Warning' Song Composition

Alongside classroom teaching, specialist instrumental tuition is provided through peripatetic teachers, enriching the curriculum offer.

## Part B: Co-curricular music

Beyond the classroom, at Howletch Lane we offer a range of co-curricular music opportunities to enrich pupils' musical experiences. The Durham Music Service visits weekly to deliver music sessions to pupils in our Enhanced Learning Provision where through structured musical activities, we help pupils enhance their focus, auditory processing, and rhythmic abilities, fostering a strong connection between sound and movement. They also teach Year 3 and 4 pupils to play the recorder. Learning the recorder is excellent for young children as this not only develops their musicality and sense of musicianship but it also helps them develop fine motor skills and their coordination of fingers, tongue, and breath all at once.

From Year 3 onwards, pupils have access to 1:1 instrumental tuition in woodwind, violin, and keyboard, enabling personalised skill development. Additionally, some pupils have the opportunity to participate in dance festivals, further enhancing their expressive and performance skills. These activities contribute to fostering a vibrant musical culture within the school and support our vision of creating futures together by nurturing pupils' confidence and creativity.

## **Part C: Musical experiences**

At Howletch Lane Primary School, musical experiences form a key part of our pupils' cultural and personal development. Every week, pupils come together to sing in assembly, fostering a sense of community and shared enjoyment of music.

During the festive period, all pupils participate in Christmas performances, with Year 5 and Year 6 pupils showcasing their talents at a local church. Pupils also benefit from visits to the theatre to enjoy pantomimes, broadening their exposure to live musical and dramatic arts. Year 5 pupils are invited to watch the musical production at Shotton Hall, inspiring their own musical aspirations.

Towards the end of the academic year, Year 6 pupils take part in celebration productions for parents, providing a platform to demonstrate their musical and performance skills. These experiences contribute to pupils' cultural capital and support our school vision by creating memorable and inclusive opportunities for all.

Our KS2 musicians also enjoying performing for parents and carers twice a year, supported by their peripatetic teachers from Durham Music service.

## **In the future**

Looking ahead, Howletch Lane Primary School plans to expand extracurricular music opportunities for pupils beyond the classroom. This includes the introduction of a school choir, which will provide additional avenues for pupils to engage with music collaboratively and develop their vocal skills in a supportive environment. We are planning to also explore partnerships with local music organisations to provide additional extracurricular workshops and ensemble experiences

## **Further information (optional)**

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

The Durham Music service also provides information for parents/carers:  
<https://www.durhammusic.org.uk/>