

Music development plan summary

Arnesby CE Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Michelle Cox
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs Ruth James
Name of local music hub	Leicestershire Music Hub

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.

Arnesby Music Curriculum Long term plan - over two years 2025 – 2026 and 2026-2027					
					
Our music curriculum is from Oak Academy and is supplemented for example with BBC Ten Pieces or other curriculum matched themes for music appreciation.					
Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 1 and 2 (2026-2027)					
Start with singing: finding my singing voice	Singing together: how singing makes me feel	Compose and Create: exploring and performing rhythm patterns	Music and movement: feeling the pulse and changing the tempo	Compose and create: high and low melodic responses	Singing for performance: Changing tempo and dynamics in our songs
Year 3 and 4 (2026-2027)					
Start with playing: adding layers to major and minor songs	Singing together: how stories are shared through song	Compose and Create: improvising within Hindustani classical music	Playing together: effective rehearsing as part of an ensemble	Compose and Create: composing a major melody on a stave	Singing for performance: discovering different ways to sing in harmony

Year 5 and 6 (2026-2027)					
Sing, play, perform: accompanying songs with polyrhythms	Singing together: music that comments on social change	Compose and rehearse: improvising with the minor pentatonic scale	Playing together: arranging and rehearsing a fusion performance	Compose and Create: creating melodic variations based on a theme	Singing for performance: conveying emotion and character through performance
2025-2026					
Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Year 1 and 2					
Musical devices Music appreciation <i>Carnival of the animals</i>	Christmas Nativity performance	Pulse and metre	Start with singing: finding my singing voice	Singing together: how singing helps us work together	Compose and create: recording our musical ideas using a graphic score
NB: From Spring 2026 the music units from Oak Academy have been discontinued so the programme for 2027-2028 will be as follows					
Start with singing: learning through singing games	Singing together: how singing helps us work together	Compose and create: recording our musical ideas using a graphic score	Music and movement: using symbols to represent pitch	Compose and create: improvising with four notes	Singing for performance: adding a simple vocal accompaniment
Year 3 and 4					
Start with playing: adding percussive layers to build to texture in our songs Music appreciation/ performance Hall of the mountain king	Singing together: how songs are used in communities Christmas Carols and music	Compose and Create: notating and performing using rhythm grids	Playing together: building texture with melody, drone and ostinato	Compose and Create: major pentatonic melodies	Singing for performance: holding a second part in rounds and partner songs
Year 5 and 6					
Beat, pulse, rhythm, structure Musical appreciation/ Performance <i>Mars bringer of war</i>	Christmas Music – Christmas Carols	Metre	Harmony	Compose and Create: composing a minor melody on a stave	Singing for performance: syncopation in songs
NB: From Spring 2026 the music units from Oak Academy have been discontinued so the programme for 2027-2028 will be as follows					
Sing, play, perform: adding tuned accompaniment to part-singing	Singing together: how songs unite us	Compose and rehearse: creating and combining minimalist cells	Playing together: discovering different vocal timbres	Compose and Create: composing a minor melody on a stave	Singing for performance: syncopation in songs

Our music curriculum works on a two-year cycle owing to the mixed aged classes we have in our school. Sometimes these can change if we have a year group that has no children or very few children as the cohort size can vary considerably from year to year.

As an inclusive school all children have access to class music lessons along with their peers. SEND music programmes are available free of charge on the Leicestershire Music hub should they be required.

In school, each music lesson lasts one session and can be supplemented by extra sessions for rehearsal and performance for a show or assembly.

Pupils have opportunities to play musical instruments during the lessons including glockenspiels and percussion instruments. As our class sizes are small, children have the opportunity to work in small groups or pairs with instruments and show their learning during the lesson.

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.

Music tuition is offered for instruments including:

Keyboard – individual lessons

Cello– individual lessons

Guitar – individual or group lessons

The musician (tutor) will showcase music by playing and also showcase the children's progress by presenting their performances in a musical assembly to the school.

Children are encouraged to seek opportunities to play music with the local music hub.

Children are able to rehearse in the village Hall, or the school library.

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 Arnesby School one worship assembly a week is devoted to singing a range of hymns and songs that reflect the Christian calendar or a performance (end of year celebration) or the school fair. All children are included.

In the future

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

The music provision has grown at Arnesby over the last academic year (2024-2025) with more children taking the opportunity to learn an instrument.

Children sing well and know a variety of songs and hymns in different styles. Our lantern walk around the village at Christmas time, shows how well the children sing with a single guitar accompaniment.

The profile of music within the school is increasing and we aim to build upon this in 2025-2026 and in future years with more groups e.g. recorders offered to children from September 2026. Establishing a school choir is our aim for this year.

Music tuition continues to grow and this is supported by both the school and parents and we have a number of children who will be learning and instrument for the first time this academic year.

The curriculum has developed using the Oak Academy lessons which the children really enjoy and also provides support to practitioners who are less confident in the technical aspects of music teaching. The school expects to see the children become much more proficient as they move through the school with future hopes of a small ensemble or orchestra by the end of the academic year 2026-2027.