

Music Development Plan Summary: Rosehill School

Intent

At Rosehill School we believe that all pupils deserve an education of the highest standard, and every pupil is entitled to a broad, balanced and enriched curriculum through which their musical skills can flourish. Our approach is mindful of the individuality of each pupil's learning style and recognises the need for a holistic, personalised teaching experience supported by a range of engaging, multi-sensory activities. As part of our total communication approach, and with many of our pupils being non-verbal, music plays a vital role as a universal form of communication and expression, an art form that every pupil can access and use to connect, participate and communicate in meaningful ways. Through this programme, pupils will be taught essential musical knowledge and skills at a level appropriate to their stage of development, from early encounters and awareness, through engagement and participation, to the development of musical skills and understanding.

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	Joel Rusiecki
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Cheryl Steele
Name of local music hub	Nottingham City
Approval	Full governing body meeting 10/12/2025

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.

What Music looks like at Rosehill

Music across the school is taught in discrete lessons using the SEND scheme of work provided by Charanga, bolstered with opportunities for musical play, sensory exploration, purposeful listening, and singing and vocalisations. In addition to discrete music lessons, music is taught cross-curricularly and embedded within Phonics and English teaching, PE and Dance. Music is also used throughout the day in daily routines, for example to support smooth transitions between spaces and activities at different times of day. Beyond classroom learning, music plays an important role in our wider school life: it is used in assemblies, classroom activities and transition times, celebrated through performances, and embedded in themed weeks where pupils can engage with music in creative and meaningful ways.

Rosehill School has become a Music Mark School, in recognition of a commitment to providing a high-quality music education for all children and young people.



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.

Pupils have the opportunity to work with specialist music teachers through our partnership with the Music Hub at the start of each academic year. Pupils who demonstrate a strong interest or particular aptitude in music are invited to take part in a weekly 40-minute ensemble session led by a specialist music teacher. During these sessions, pupils learn to play classical instruments, explore music technology, and develop their creative skills, with regular opportunities to perform.

The school has two choirs made up of pupils from across all age groups. Our choirs use both singing and signing, and they perform regularly throughout the year. There are further opportunities for pupils to showcase their talents during school performances, including concerts at Christmas and in the summer term.

Pupils also share their own musical identities by bringing their favourite music to group sessions, where classes listen together, discuss, and appraise a wide range of musical styles.

To deepen their musical and performance experiences, pupils engage with the local arts community, including organisations such as the Nottingham Playhouse and visiting theatre groups. These experiences help develop pupils' confidence, broaden their cultural understanding, and provide valuable opportunities to watch and participate in professional performances.

Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and talent shows, and trips to professional concerts.

All pupils across the school take part in Christmas performances that bring together a range of creative arts, including Music, Dance, Art and Drama. In recent years, our

Middle and Upper School Christmas production has even been created and written in collaboration with one of our own pupils, showcasing the creativity within our community.

In the summer term, pupils celebrate their musical progress through a special event with the Music Hub, featuring both solo and group performances. Parents and community members are invited to join us in recognising and celebrating pupils' achievements. Pupils also share their learning from Charanga-based music lessons in our annual talent competition, where staff, families and pupils reflect on the year's musical journey and enjoy highlights from performances throughout the year.

Each of these events provides pupils with valuable opportunities to perform in front of their peers, families and the wider community.

Every week, two groups of pupils come together for choir sessions focused on singing. All pupils, whether they are verbal or non-speaking, are welcomed and encouraged to participate. These inclusive sessions build confidence, strengthen social connections and support the development of musical skills. The choirs perform a range of songs, from traditional favourites to seasonal pieces, and share their work through performances across the year.

Pupils who participate in the school's musical ensembles have also taken part in 'The Great Orchestra Experiment' with MEHEM UpRising. This event brings SEND schools together to collaborate and perform alongside a professional orchestra at venues such as Nottingham's Albert Hall and, more recently, St Mary's Church. We hope to continue taking part in these inspiring experiences, which help pupils develop confidence and deepen their appreciation of live orchestral music.

Throughout the year, all pupils enjoy performances from visiting theatre companies, including concerts and pantomimes, as well as opportunities to participate in creative, collaborative projects with local arts organisations.

In the future

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

To further enrich the music offer for all pupils at Rosehill School, we intend to:

- Introduce a themed Performing Arts Curriculum Week, providing opportunities for creative expression linked to key events such as the World Cup.
- Develop a new, innovative approach by appointing pupil ambassadors to support the development of music and art across the school.
- Implement a new two-year music curriculum plan.
- Provide ongoing CPD for staff to ensure confident and high-quality delivery of the curriculum.
- Create additional opportunities for the school choir to perform within the local community, for example at local church groups.
- Enhance pupils' experience of live music by arranging visits from local musicians and planning more external trips in partnership with the Music Hub.

- Seek agreement from SLT and governors to timetable a dedicated day of musical activities, allowing the Music Subject Lead to work with individuals and small groups and expand extra-curricular access to music.
- Introduce a weekly themed listening focus once per term, where pupils are welcomed into and leave school to music from a particular genre.
- Explore and apply for funding announced by government: [Music pilot launched to help break down barriers to opportunity - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/music-pilot-launched-to-help-break-down-barriers-to-opportunity)

Further information (optional)

[Home | Nottingham Music Hub](#)

[Home | UpRising Resource Balloon | Music Education resources \(uprisingballoon.com\)](#)

[HandMade Theatre - Unique, sustainable, engaging work with people at its heart.](#)

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.