

Music Development Plan 2026-27

North Harringay Primary School



Music Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 27
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Lilly Rees
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Rhiannon Mapleston (AHT)
Name of local music hub	Haringey Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Apollo Music Chamber Tots RockSteady Lullaby Song Project

Part A: Curriculum Music

What we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

At North Harringay Primary School, we aspire for our pupils to develop high levels of intrinsic musicality through a rich and exciting curriculum, ensuring they develop the skills, knowledge and understanding needed to become lifelong musicians. Through these experiences, pupils' academic, emotional, social and personal development is enhanced. Our Music Curriculum is bespoke; it is informed by the Model Music Curriculum and the needs, interests, skills and experiences of our school community.

Our Music Curriculum is cumulative and carefully sequenced, facilitating clear linear progression from EYFS to Year 6 and beyond. Each year group usually has six units, covering the key areas of singing, listening, composing, improvising and performing, alongside the development of instrumental skills, musical vocabulary, notation and knowledge. Lessons and units are sequenced so that new learning builds explicitly on previously taught knowledge and skills, ensuring that pupils develop secure foundations which enable them to access increasingly complex musical learning as they progress through the school. This approach aims to develop pupils' mastery of the fundamentals of music and their ability to apply these independently and creatively.

All pupils receive weekly music teaching, taught by or supported by a specialist music teacher, alongside weekly singing assemblies. This ensures that all pupils from EYFS to Year 6 receive at least one hour of music learning each week.

Through our Music Curriculum, pupils have the opportunity to:

- Develop singing skills – Pupils develop good vocal technique, pitch, expression, confidence and the ability to sing in harmony. Singing is a significant part of our musical culture and pupils develop a love of singing at NHP.
- Develop rhythmic skills – Pupils develop their understanding of pulse, rhythm and rhythmic notation and experience a variety of rhythmic styles and traditions from around the world, including West African Drumming, Gamelan, Bamboo Tamboo and Samba. Pupils regularly apply these skills through composition and performance.
- Develop instrumental skills – In EYFS and Year 1, pupils develop their instrumental skills predominantly through the use of untuned percussion. In Year 2, pupils develop these skills further through xylophones, glockenspiels, keyboards, untuned percussion, Gamelan and Bamboo Tamboo. Year 3 includes further keyboard and percussion work alongside Gamelan and ukulele. In Year 4, pupils receive whole-class instrumental tuition in guitar, clarinet and trumpet through the Haringey Music Education Hub. In Year 5, pupils have the opportunity to continue developing their Year 4 instrument alongside whole-class music lessons focusing on keyboard, ukulele and ensemble performance. In Year 6, pupils further develop their previously acquired instrumental skills through composition, improvisation and performance.
- Develop composition and improvisation skills – The majority of units include a strong focus on composition and/or improvisation, enabling pupils to apply their developing musical knowledge and skills creatively. Pupils also use music technology in Years 4 and 6 to develop and record their own musical ideas. Every year group has at least one unit focusing on a compositional style or musical tradition from around the world. In KS2, pupils develop their ability to notate short compositions using standard notation, building on the use of graphic scores and other forms of notation in KS1.
- Develop listening and evaluating skills – Pupils listen to and respond to a diverse range of music from different cultures, traditions, genres and historical periods. From Nursery onwards, pupils are encouraged to describe the sounds they hear and develop increasingly precise musical vocabulary. Through listening, pupils explore musical elements, mood, character and expression and learn to articulate their responses using appropriate musical terminology. It is also our aim that every pupil experiences at least one live musical performance each year.
- Develop an understanding of the social and historical context of music – Pupils explore music from a range of cultures, traditions and genres, developing an understanding of the social, cultural and historical contexts in which different music has developed. Where appropriate, pupils use authentic performance practices to understand and experience music within its cultural context.

Inclusion:

Our expectations for musical attainment are high. We aim for every pupil to develop secure musical knowledge and skills and to leave NHP with the confidence, understanding and experience to continue

making music beyond primary school, regardless of socio-economic background, prior experience or individual circumstance.

Our pupils with SEND are supported to access the same ambitious curriculum through adaptive teaching. All pupils work towards the same core learning intention, with appropriate scaffolds, adaptations and additional challenge used according to individual need. Within lessons, teachers provide opportunities to support, consolidate, strengthen and deepen learning. This enables pupils to develop musical independence, address misconceptions and build securely on prior learning while ensuring that all pupils are appropriately challenged.

Part B: Co-curricular Music

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.

North Harringay Primary School has a broad and inclusive co-curricular music offer, providing pupils with regular opportunities to sing, play instruments, perform and develop their musicianship beyond curriculum music lessons.

Singing

We offer separate KS1 and KS2 choirs throughout the year, providing opportunities for pupils to develop their vocal technique, confidence, ensemble skills and performance experience. The KS1 choir has capacity for up to 30 pupils and the KS2 choir for up to 50 pupils. Both are led by our specialist music teachers.

Instrumental tuition and bands

Rocksteady, an external music provider, currently provides band tuition for approximately 30 pupils. Pupils learn in bands and develop instrumental, ensemble and performance skills. Rocksteady also provides regular free taster sessions, enabling pupils to experience band music before committing to tuition, and additional places can be offered where there is further interest.

The Haringey Music Education Hub provides piano tuition for approximately 30 pupils across the school.

Pupils who are interested in developing their musicianship beyond curriculum lessons can also participate in instrumental groups led by our Music Lead. These include:

- Orchestra – open to pupils who already play an instrument, with a minimum of one year's playing experience.
- Band Club – open to pupils who are interested in developing skills on electric guitar, drum kit, keyboard, bass guitar, vocals and ukulele. The club provides an accessible entry point for pupils who are interested in exploring instrumental music and performing as part of an ensemble.

These opportunities provide a pathway for pupils to move from curriculum music and initial musical experiences towards more sustained instrumental learning, ensemble playing and performance.

Performance and wider musical experiences

We have established a partnership with Apollo Music, providing Year 5 pupils with six instrumental workshops/performances and two concert trips. These experiences broaden pupils' understanding of professional music-making and provide opportunities to experience live music beyond the school environment.

As an Aurora Champion School, we also use the new Aurora classroom resources in EYFS and selected Year 1 lessons. As part of this programme, Year 1 pupils will attend Aurora concerts during the academic year, providing an early opportunity to experience high-quality live music.

Inclusion and access

We are committed to ensuring that financial circumstances do not prevent pupils from participating in musical opportunities. Many pupils eligible for FSM and Pupil Premium receive subsidised or fully funded tuition and instrument hire through our partnership with the Haringey Music Education Hub.

Year 4 and Year 5 pupils are also able to take the instrument they are learning home free of charge, funded through the Tottenham Grammar Foundation. This enables pupils to practise and develop their instrumental skills beyond school.

All school-led ensembles, with the exception of Rocksteady, are free or very low cost and are always free for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium or FSM.

Our co-curricular offer therefore provides multiple entry points for pupils with different levels of musical experience, from those trying an instrument or singing for the first time to pupils who are developing more advanced instrumental and ensemble skills. We aim to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to participate, progress and perform, regardless of their prior experience or financial circumstances.

Part C: Musical Experiences

At North Harringay Primary School, we aim to ensure that pupils experience music as a performer, listener and audience member. Throughout the year, pupils have regular opportunities to perform, experience live music, work with professional musicians and share their musical learning with different audiences.

Regular musical experiences

- Weekly singing assemblies for KS1 and KS2, providing regular opportunities for pupils to develop their singing, repertoire and confidence as performers.
- Rocksteady performances throughout the year, enabling pupils to share their band work with the wider school community.
- Class assemblies – each class has one class assembly per year, incorporating singing and, where appropriate, instrumental performance.
- Aurora concerts for EYFS and Year 1 pupils.
- Lullaby Song Project for selected EYFS children and their families, providing an opportunity for children and families to experience and participate in shared music-making.
- Opportunities for pupils to perform through choir, Band Club, Samba and other instrumental groups throughout the year.

- Professional musicians and live music
- Year 5 pupils benefit from a partnership with Apollo Music, including:
 - Six Apollo Music project workshops.
 - One chamber music concert performed by Apollo Music.
 - One orchestral concert performed by Apollo Music.

These experiences give pupils the opportunity to hear professional musicians perform live and to develop their understanding of different ensembles, instruments, musical styles and performance contexts.

Annual performance opportunities

December

- Choir Carol Performance.
- Haringey Music Education Hub guitar, trumpet and clarinet performance.
- EYFS Winter Show.

April

- KS2 Choir performance at the Royal Albert Hall as part of the Haringey Music Education Hub concert.
- Opportunities for selected instrumentalists to perform as part of the concert.
- Haringey Music Education Hub guitar, trumpet and clarinet performance.

June/July

- Summer Fair performances from both choirs, Band Club and Samba.
- School Talent Show, open to all pupils through audition.
- Haringey Music Education Hub guitar, trumpet and clarinet performance.
- Year 2 and Year 6 productions.

Access and inclusion

All planned musical performances, events and musical experiences are free for all pupils. We are committed to ensuring that financial circumstances do not prevent any pupil from participating in or experiencing high-quality musical opportunities.

Our programme provides pupils with repeated opportunities to perform, listen, experience live music and develop confidence in front of an audience. Across their time at NHP, pupils therefore encounter a wide range of musical experiences, from regular singing and class performances to professional concerts, large-scale performances and opportunities to perform at prestigious venues.

Future

Over the next year, we will continue to provide specialist music teaching for Years 1–5, with Year 6 currently taught by the class teacher with support from our Music Specialist. We will continue to review

the balance of specialist and class-teacher-led provision to ensure that pupils experience consistent, high-quality musical teaching and clear progression throughout Key Stage 2.

EYFS will continue to trial the Aurora Classroom programme, with the impact and effectiveness of the resources reviewed throughout the year. We will use this evaluation to inform how Aurora resources and approaches are incorporated into our EYFS and wider early years music provision.

We plan to continue our partnership with Apollo Music, providing Year 5 pupils with opportunities to work with professional musicians and experience high-quality live music. We will also continue our Haringey Music Education Hub (WCIT) provision in Year 4, with pupils having opportunities to continue developing their instrumental skills into Years 5 and 6.

We will continue to develop adaptive teaching in music, ensuring that SEND and EAL pupils can access the same ambitious musical curriculum and make progress from their individual starting points. We will also monitor participation in our co-curricular offer to ensure that SEND, EAL, disadvantaged pupils and pupils with different levels of prior musical experience are represented across choirs, ensembles, instrumental tuition and performance opportunities.

Over the coming year, we will also strengthen the tracking of pupils' musical participation and progression, using this information to identify pupils who may benefit from additional opportunities and to ensure that musical talent and interest are nurtured across the school.

Our longer-term ambition is to ensure that every pupil at NHP has the opportunity to learn an instrument, sing, compose, perform, experience live music and develop their musicianship beyond the classroom, with financial circumstances or additional needs not acting as a barrier to participation.