

Music development plan summary: Brooksward School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Sam Mungham
Name of local music hub	MK Music Hub

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.

At Brooksward, we have weekly visits from a specialist music teacher from Milton Keynes Music Service to work with Year 4. This teacher works with the year group for 1 hour every week, all year. Children from Foundation to Year 3 and then Years 5 and 6 are taught music by their class teachers. Our music curriculum is based on the Model Music Curriculum and follows the Music Express programme of learning. Our curriculum is based around 4 key concepts: Performing and Communicating, Improvising and Composing, Listening, Understanding and Appreciating and finally Dimensions (including key vocabulary and terminology).

In Reception, children are taught to sing songs as an ensemble, make music using different tuned and untuned instruments, and move to music in appropriate ways. Children are taught skills such as matching pitch, copying rhythms and following melodies.

In KS1, children learn about the different ways they can use their voices, increasingly matching pitch and following melodies as an ensemble. They explore the different tuned and untuned instruments and how they can use these instruments to create different effects. Children begin to understand basic notation including pitch line graphs and simple scores.

In KS2, children develop their musical understanding by learning more about musical notation. They write out short passages of music and use this to play each other's work. Through these units, they develop their knowledge of musical styles and structures including riffs, ostinato and rondo structures. They also use their voices in ensembles to create different effects including singing in multiple parts and with melody and harmony lines.

In Year 4, our music teacher from Milton Keynes Music Service teaches the children the xylophone and metallophones. This is done as a whole class ensemble and they learn some information about the instrument and its origins, some basic chords and how to strum the strings to make different sounds. They learn several songs and the music teacher records a performance for their assessment and also to be shared with parents.

To ensure that all children are fully supported and included in music lessons, all staff have access to SEND pupils' SEN Support Plans, Individual Education Plans (IEPs) and Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). Key information is shared with staff, including strategies for support individuals. Our music curriculum is based around the value of inclusion. Children with SEND needs are encouraged to take part and engage as much as possible with adaptations being made to provision for those that need it.

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.

Throughout the year, a range of after-school clubs are offered to children across Key Stages 1 and 2, including a Performing Arts Club and a choir.

Rocksteady is an enrichment programme that provides rock and pop band lessons for children across the school, helping them learn instruments such as vocals, electric guitar, drums, bass and keyboards in a fun and inclusive setting. The bands perform a termly concert for their families.

Young Voices brings together thousands of schoolchildren to perform in some of the largest children's choir concerts in the world, held at major arenas such as the O2 and Resorts World Arena. It aims to inspire a lifelong love of music, boost confidence and foster a sense of community through unforgettable live performance experiences. Children taking part attend choir club during Autumn 2 to learn the concert repertoire and are also given the opportunity to perform a selection of songs to the school.

In the Autumn term, all children take part in our annual carol service for parents and the school community as part of our Winter Fayre. Children in Reception and Year 6 also perform productions for parents during the year. In addition, every class presents a class assembly to parents and the school at least once a year, which includes group singing. Some year groups also choose to stage additional singing performances for parents throughout the year. During Brookwards Got Talent, children are given the opportunity to audition and showcase their musical talents, whether vocal or instrumental.

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.

Throughout the year, children get the opportunity to sing every week in school. Singing assembly takes place once a week where children learn the importance of warming up and learn a range of pieces of music over the year. We also have music played in the other 3 assemblies that happen in the week. There is a set list of songs that are played in assembly, chosen to link to the theme of each week. Children listen to the songs of the week regularly and learn to sing along with them.

Teachers are encouraged to choose one song/ piece of music every week that is special to them or that they particularly enjoy. They then play this in their classrooms throughout the week. The aim of this is to broaden the children's experience of listening to music and expose them to songs and pieces that they may never listen to otherwise. This also encourages discussion and debate about musical styles and genres and the merits of them.

The Milton Keynes Music Hub also provide additional peripatetic music lessons in school on a weekly basis for children who are interested in learning an instrument across Key Stage 2. Currently this includes trumpet, violin and guitar.

In the future

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

- Invest in a Sing Up subscription to further broaden teachers' access to high-quality music resources, warmups and songs.
- Purchase a piano to be used during singing assemblies and other school events to help teach musical skills.
- Arrange a series of termly concerts for the school and parents for children who play a musical instrument both inside and outside of school.
- Arrange lunch time concerts over the year for children who wish to perform or attend alongside the Headteacher.
- Contact local secondary schools, performers, choirs, orchestras, bands to arrange workshops or performances for the whole school or specific year groups.
- Share with staff further resources which can be used in lessons/classrooms, e.g. virtual concerts, song suggestions, online song banks etc.