

Music development plan summary: Beck Row Primary Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	04/02/2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	04/02/2027
Name of the school music lead	Shona Addison
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Shona Addison
Name of local music hub	Suffolk music hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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 Beck Row Primary, our music curriculum is built around the **Charanga** scheme, a comprehensive and progressive programme that supports pupils in developing key musical knowledge, skills and understanding. Charanga provides structured units that blend listening, singing, performing, composing and appraising, allowing pupils to engage with a wide repertoire of musical styles. This approach ensures that all children experience a broad music education that nurtures confidence, creativity and enjoyment while supporting clear progression across the year groups.

Our curriculum aligns closely with the aims outlined in **Part A of the National Plan for Music Education**, which emphasises ensuring that all children receive a **high-quality music education in schools** and have access to a broad musical culture supported by strong teaching, resources and opportunities. The Plan highlights the national vision for all pupils to "learn to sing, play an instrument and create music together," emphasising the role of structured, well-designed curriculum models that build technical and expressive musical skills over time. By delivering the Charanga scheme, we uphold these

expectations through sequenced, high-quality lessons underpinned by inclusive practices and clear progression pathways.

We provide at least one hour of high-quality curriculum music each week, supported by wider enrichment and performance opportunities. Charanga enables us to meet this requirement effectively, offering all pupils purposeful and engaging lessons that develop musical understanding from the Early Years onward. This ensures every child builds knowledge and confidence in a coherent and meaningful way, reflecting the national plan's commitment to equitable access for all learners.

In addition to our curriculum provision, Beck Row Primary is proud to be partnered with the Suffolk Music Hub, strengthening our access to expert guidance, high-quality resources and wider musical opportunities for pupils. Our commitment to excellence in music education is further reflected in our status as a Music Mark accredited school, recognising our dedication to providing a broad and ambitious musical offer for all children.

Through the combination of the Charanga scheme, our partnership with Suffolk Music Hub and our accredited approach to high-quality provision, Beck Row Primary fully aligns with the ambitions set out in the National Plan for Music Education.

Part B: Music tuition and performance

Beck Row Academy provides opportunities for pupils to access music tuition beyond timetabled curriculum lessons, supporting progression and sustained engagement with music. All pupils begin instrumental learning in lower Key Stage 2 through whole-class instrument tuition. In recent years, this has been the trumpet and cornet, but this is subject to change each September. In Year 4, pupils receive whole-class instrumental tuition delivered by specialist teachers from Suffolk Music Service. In line with national expectations, pupils are offered the opportunity to continue learning this instrument into Year 5, enabling them to develop technical control, musical understanding and performance skills over time. There are also opportunities for children to pursue this outside of school and for a small fee to parents, can join Suffolk children's orchestra on a Friday evening.

Pupils are also able to take part in ensemble music-making beyond lesson time. Termly singing assemblies provide regular opportunities for pupils to sing as part of a large vocal ensemble, developing confidence, musicality and a shared enjoyment of singing. Through these assemblies, pupils learn a wide range of songs and experience singing together as a whole school or key stage, fulfilling the National Plan expectation that all pupils sing regularly.

A range of performance and enrichment opportunities further supports pupils' musical development. Each term, two year groups perform to the school community and parents, ensuring that all pupils participate in live performance throughout their time at the school. These performances provide meaningful opportunities for pupils to apply and extend their musical learning beyond the classroom. In addition, pupils experience live music annually through a visit from a professional pantomime company, ensuring access to high-quality live performance and helping to inspire continued engagement with music.

Part C: Musical experiences

At Beck Row Primary, we are committed to providing a rich and varied programme of musical experiences that nurtures pupils' creativity, confidence, and enjoyment of the performing arts. Throughout the school year, children are encouraged to participate in high-quality musical opportunities that celebrate their developing skills and enhance our wider school community. Each Christmas, our Early Years Foundation Stage pupils delight families with a traditional Nativity performance, while children in Years 1 and 2 proudly present a selection of festive songs that showcase their vocal learning and growing musical awareness.

As pupils progress through the school, they continue to build on these foundations. Near Easter, children in Years 3 and 4 stage a performance for both the school and their parents, allowing them to develop ensemble skills, stage confidence and musical expression. In the summer term, our Year 5 and 6 pupils work collaboratively to produce a full play, taking responsibility not only for acting and singing but also for designing the set and choreographing dance sequences. This whole-school progression reflects the National Plan for Music Education's emphasis on offering children "a broad musical culture" and opportunities to "learn, create and share their music," alongside regular performance experiences in school life.

We also value the importance of wider musical enrichment beyond our internal productions. Every three years, we take our school choir to participate in Young Voices, giving pupils the chance to sing as part of one of the largest children's choirs in the world—an experience that aligns with the National Plan's vision that all children should have the opportunity to "learn to sing, play an instrument and create music together," supported by partnerships and large-scale musical events. Whenever possible, we fundraise to cover transport costs to ensure this opportunity remains accessible to all families. Additionally, each year we welcome a professional pantomime company to perform for the whole school, providing pupils with at least one live performance experience annually—an expectation highlighted within the National Plan for Music Education's guidance on high-quality provision in schools.

Together, these experiences demonstrate our commitment to ensure that children at Beck Row Primary receive a joyful, inclusive and progressive musical education enriched by regular opportunities to perform, collaborate and experience live music in a variety of forms.

In the future

Looking ahead, Beck Row Primary is committed to further enhancing its music offer by protecting dedicated music teaching time each week to ensure every child receives consistent, high-quality music education. We will continue to strengthen staff expertise through ongoing training and support, making full use of our partnership with Suffolk Music Hub to access specialist guidance, workshops and enrichment opportunities. As a Music Mark–accredited school, we aim to build on this recognition by broadening pupils' musical experiences, offering more opportunities for performance, composition and instrumental exploration. By prioritising curriculum time, expanding enrichment activities and ensuring staff are well-supported, we will continue to develop a vibrant, inclusive and ambitious music provision that enables all pupils to grow as confident, creative young musicians.