

Music development plan summary: Heathfield Infant and Nursery School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	June 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2025
Name of the school music lead	Carl Speck
Name of local music hub	Richmond Music Trust

Heathfield Nursery and Infant School prides itself on the quality, breadth, and inclusivity of the music it offers their children. We offer a high-quality music education for all and as such, we meet a high proportion of what is identified within the HM Government's National Plan of Music (NPM).

Curriculum Music

In Nursery, weekly sing-along sessions are led by the music lead. Songs include a range of new and familiar nursery rhymes, action songs and song that develop a sense of pulse and rhythm. Links with the taught curriculum are made where necessary. Children perform their songs as part of termly parents and carer events. Children have access to a range of instruments and music making opportunities at all times.

In Reception, there is a weekly music assembly which uses resources from the Charanga on-line music scheme. This is led by the music lead. Games and activities which promote a sense of pulse, rhythm and pitch are also included for class teachers to practise and embed in their own settings after the session. There is a music and performance area in the outside provision, including song lyrics for songs the children have learnt plus a range of percussion instruments. The children have a chance to perform songs for festivals and special occasions plus termly 'sing-along' events for parents and carers.

Heathfield uses a spiral curriculum in KS1 and meets the requirements of the Model Music Curriculum (MMC) through the adoption of the Charanga on-line Music Scheme A. This music scheme is delivered in Years 1 and 2 by class teachers. Currently children receive a weekly 30-minute class music lesson, and weekly singing assemblies where they sing and listen to music taken from the Charanga scheme. In line with the Charanga Scheme, children are taught to sing properly, appraise a wide range of music and read, play, compose and improvise music on glockenspiels and recorders, as well as a variety of unpitched instruments. The children have a chance to

perform songs for festivals and special occasions plus termly 'sing-along' events for parents and carers. Year 1 children perform a Christmas show every year. Year 2 children perform a 'Singing and Poetry Show' at the end of the academic year for parents and carers. The outdoor Year 1 provision features a performance area where children have access to a range of percussion instruments and a song book of school favourites and nursery rhymes.

Extra-curricular music

Pupils at Heathfield have the opportunity to take part in weekly 'Rocksteady' band sessions led by an outside provider. No music experience is required and the children have a chance to learn the guitar, drums, keyboard or sing. The Rocksteady Band perform every term for the rest of the school. The sessions are led by a music specialist. There is a free bursary space offered.

For those children who love to sing, the Year 2 children can join the Federation Choir, open to children in Years 2-6. This is led by our music lead who is a vocal specialist. As well as performing regularly at school events such as the Christmas Church Service and the school fair, the choir take part on the Richmond Music Trust Singing Festival every year at The Rose Theatre in Kingston. This is a real highlight for all involved as the children get to perform with a live band as well as experience singing in a large, professional theatre. They also have a chance to sing with other schools to create a massed vocal ensemble of over 500 voices.

The choice of repertoire from a variety of cultures and traditions in vocal and instrumental lessons, as well as our choir and singing assembly repertoire, offers a powerful way to promote diversity. Creating a culture where all music is celebrated and respected encourages learners to be confident in enjoying, embracing, and sharing the music that is meaningful to them.

Musical experiences

All children at Heathfield take part in weekly singing assemblies/sessions. Music is incorporated into assemblies, Harvest, Christmas and Easter Services as well as other festivals throughout the year.

Children enjoy watching performances from our Junior school ensembles as well as the Rocksteady bands.

Our weekly singing assemblies often feature talks or short performances from other staff members who play musical instruments. There is a display linked to 'instruments of the week' in the hall, along with class music displays around the school highlighting

musical topics taught in class and reminding children of key vocabulary.

In the future

- Introduce use of Charanga MMC Scheme into Years 1 and 2.
- Initiate a manageable and consistent form of recording/evidencing music lessons e.g. class listening diaries, termly performance videos.
- Increase opportunities for pupils to experience live music performances e.g. visits from local secondary school bands and ensembles.

Further information

Richmond Music Trust:

<https://www.richmondmusictrust.org.uk/site/>

Rocksteady:

<https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>

Charanga:

<https://charanga.com/site/>