Gorseybrigg Primary School and Nursery

Music Development Plan

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026–2027
Date this summary was published	1 November 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	1 November 2027
Name of the music lead	Hilary Bradbury and Rachel MacLeod
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Rachel MacLeod
Name of local music hub	Derbyshire Music Education Hub

We aim to inspire children to appreciate music, take pleasure in creating sound and enjoy performing. We want children to develop a lifelong love of listening to and making music, with a musical grounding that can support future interests and careers.

Inclusion is at the heart of our music offer. Vulnerable children, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and those eligible for pupil premium, are supported to participate fully in music lessons, co-curricular activities and musical experiences.

Gorseybrigg Primary School and Nursery has received Music Mark recognition this year (2026–2027).

MUSIC MARK

Part A: Curriculum music

We use a three-term curriculum model to give children time to explore subjects in depth, with music as the focus in the summer term. Our music curriculum draws on our own planning, BBC Ten Pieces and Sing Up.

Our curriculum map and skills progression set out music learning from Reception to Year 6. Children develop skills in singing, instrumental playing, listening and responding, composing, musical notation and music history. They explore music from different genres, performers, composers, historical periods, countries and cultures, learning to express their opinions and use musical vocabulary when discussing what they hear.

Listening includes orchestral and film music alongside popular songs, musicals, gospel, jazz, anthems and rap. Examples include The Lark Ascending by Ralph Vaughan Williams, In the Hall of the Mountain King by Edvard Grieg, music by Benjamin Britten and Grace Williams, Florence Price's Symphony No. 1 in E minor, works by Johann Sebastian Bach, New World Symphony by Antonín Dvořák and Rhapsody in Blue by George Gershwin.

Singing progresses from simple group songs in Reception to echo and call-and-response songs, rounds, two-part songs and harmony. Children increasingly control pitch, phrasing, pronunciation, breathing and expression, respond to conducting signals and improve their performances. Instrumental learning develops from careful handling of percussion and exploring sounds to keeping a steady beat, playing rhythmic and melodic parts, maintaining an independent part and accompanying music with pitched and unpitched instruments. Year 5 pupils learn the flute in whole-class lessons during curriculum lesson time, taught by teachers from Derbyshire Music Education Hub.

Our Singing Curriculum Map sets out warm-up songs and whole-class singing repertoire for every year group from Reception to Year 6, using Sing Up resources. Reception combines movement and body percussion with songs such as Copy Kitten and Hey Little Frog. Year 1 explores animals and songs from shows, including singing Butterfly in rounds. Year 2 focuses on storytime and gospel songs, with repertoire including Celebration and Down by the Riverside. Year 3 explores the natural world through The Water Cycle Song and two-part harmony in I Love the Flowers and Under One Sky. Year 4 focuses on portraits and pop songs, including Unstoppable and I Can See Clearly Now. Year 5 explores patterns through two-part harmony in There's a Power in the Music and Hey Dumba, and layers Rise with body percussion. Year 6 explores landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes and folk songs, with repertoire including Maid on the Shore and two-part harmony in Another Day of Sun.

Composition progresses from sound exploration and musical storytelling to short rhythmic and melodic phrases, repeating patterns, layered compositions and structured music. Older pupils develop melodies and rhythm patterns within given structures, include rests, compose lyrics and use chords, refining their work within given constraints. Notation develops from symbols representing sounds to reading rhythmic notation and time signatures, introducing pitched notation on the treble clef in Year 5 and improving understanding of standard notation in Year 6. Musical vocabulary builds from rhythm,

dynamics, pulse and pitch to include tempo, structure, duration, texture, chords, timbre, melody and harmony. Children also develop their understanding of composers, musical eras, place and culture.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Children in Key Stage 2 can join the school choir, which sings at Young Voices, local concerts and community events. Guitar lessons with a specialist teacher are offered from Year 2 upwards. Pupils who learn the flute in Year 5 can choose to continue their lessons in Year 6, with subsidies available for those who wish to continue. These opportunities support children in developing their music-making beyond the core curriculum.

Part C: Musical experiences

Children in Years 3 and 5 attend classical concerts as audience members. Weekly singing assemblies involve all children. All children participate in carol singing at the care home, and children in Key Stage 1 sing at the Well Dressing. All classes participate in a musical Christmas performance, with Years 5 and 6 leading a carol service at the church. The Key Stage 2 choir also sings at Young Voices. Year 5 pupils perform in a flute concert and all children in Key Stage 2 perform in an end-of-year musical at a theatre.

These experiences give children opportunities to enjoy live music and perform in school and in the community, developing confidence in sharing music with others.

In the future

Proposed priorities for 2027–2028 are to build on our existing curriculum, choir, guitar lessons and flute provision.

- We aim to strengthen pupils' confidence in reading musical notation, supported by shared teaching resources and staff development.
- We want to explore a small instrumental ensemble for pupils continuing flute or guitar, alongside reviewing access to lessons and the choir so that cost and support needs do not prevent participation.
- We plan to improve our progression in composition, giving more time to procedural knowledge to enable children to meet with success

This summary is based on Gorseybrigg Music Curriculum Map, Gorseybrigg Music Skills Progression and Singing Curriculum Map. Together, these documents describe the school's musical aims, Reception-to-Year-6 curriculum, progression in musical skills and year-group singing repertoire.

Useful music links

- Gorseybrigg school music curriculum
- Derbyshire Music Education Hub
- Music tuition information for parents and carers

For music enquiries, email info@gorseybrigg.derbyshire.sch.uk, FAO Hilary Bradbury.