

Music development plan summary: *Carrington Infant School*

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/6
Date this summary was published	November 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Samantha Springell
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	Buckinghamshire Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

This is a summary of how Carrington Infant 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 Carrington Infant School offers and who we work with to support our pupils’ music education.

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.

Using the Charanga Music scheme (Durham Music Service) planning and resources, teachers cover the expectations of both Expressive Arts and Design in the EYFS curriculum and the National Curriculum for Music for Key Stage 1. One hour of music is taught a week in all Key Stage 1 classes using the Charanga scheme which is informed by the Model Music Curriculum. In Year 1, children access a continuous provision approach which supports and extends their musical learning. Through this provision, pupils engage in planned musical play projects that are carefully linked to the National Curriculum for Music. These projects are designed and facilitated by teachers to provide opportunities for children to explore, experiment, and apply their musical understanding in creative ways. The key skills and knowledge introduced during discrete music lessons are revisited, reinforced, and developed through these play-based activities across the week, ensuring that learning is embedded and made meaningful within the children’s wider classroom experiences

EYFS classes use music in their activities throughout the week, with weekly carpet sessions using Charanga Music. Singing is an integral part of our school life and our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to sing in tune, developing their expression and ability to listen to others, both during Music lessons and weekly singing assemblies. Children are taught to make music together with tuned and un-tuned instruments and through the Charanga lessons, every year group learns to play the glockenspiel.

Our Curriculum Map and Progression Grid for the knowledge and skills we cover in Music from Reception to Year 2 is published on our website:

[Curriculum map](#)

[Music knowledge skills and progression](#)

Charanga Music plans include how to adapt the sessions to support children with additional needs as well as challenge those with specific musical skills. We achieve this in a variety of ways:

- Setting tasks which are open-ended and can have a variety of responses.
- Setting tasks of increasing difficulty.
- Grouping children by ability and setting different tasks for each group.
- Grouping children in mixed ability groups.
- Providing resources of different complexity, depending on the ability of the child.
- Using Learning Support Assistants to support the work of individuals or groups of children.

Furthermore, we increase access for children with SEND by:

- Reducing the burden on working memory.
- Breaking down tasks e.g learn just a bar or line of a piece of music or chorus or verse.
- Providing children with pictures to support them to discuss how a piece of music made them feel.
- Using rhythm cards with pictures underneath e.g frog for crotchet, tadpole for quavers
- Placing stickers on notes when learning an instrument and colour code corresponding music.
- Reducing the tempo of a piece of music.
- Allowing enough practice time with the teacher for all to enhance development of fine motor control and dexterity.
- Use adapted instruments where available.

Part B: Co-curricular music

At Carrington Infant School we provide opportunities for all pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including our very popular choir and Rock Steady bands. Furthermore, we have a 'Forest School' percussion set where the children can explore sounds in different ways.

Pupils are taught music in whole class groups for an hour a week. We have a weekly singing assembly for all the children which is led by our Music Lead.

Our pupils have the opportunity to join Rock Steady, an independent tuition that attend our school on a weekly basis. Pupils in the bands have the opportunity to perform to parents and the rest of the school on a termly basis. This is one of the most popular events in the school calendar.

Pupils across the school perform each year at the local Church, singing songs for Harvest, Easter and Christmas. These are performed in class groups as well as providing an opportunity for the choir to perform.

Our links with Carrington Junior School also present opportunities for the choirs to join together to perform at the annual Christmas village fair and summer fete as well as performing to pupils in both schools.

Pupils in Reception learn traditional Christmas carols as part of the Nativity.

- There is no cost to parents for pupils joining the choir. It is non-selective and celebrates the diversity we have in school. Pupils of Rock Steady are required to pay for lessons however places are kept for Disadvantaged Pupils, the costs of which is met by the company.
- Pupils in the choir rehearse in classrooms and the school hall where they have access to backing tracks via online subscription platforms. Pupils of Rock have a designated practise room where they rehearse.
- Children are encouraged to pursue their musical interests and when pupils have achieved music success or awards either in or out of school, their achievement is celebrated in whole-school assemblies.

Part C: Musical Enrichment

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.

At Carrington Infant School we want the pupils to gain musical experiences they may not ordinarily experience. Each year we celebrate World Music Day and invite a professional group to school. These groups provide workshops as well as a professional performance. Recently we have welcomed a steel band, a harpist as well as a Samba workshop. We provide opportunities for the children to learn about different musical instruments during music focussed assemblies. For example, the flute, violin, trumpet and trombone.

In addition to the hour of music provision each week, all pupils take part in a whole school singing assembly every week for 15 minutes. Children sing a range of different

songs including multi-cultural, religious and pop songs. Three times a year, every year group will learn a song to sing in our local church for Harvest, Easter and Christmas as well as regular opportunities to perform in the weekly singing assembly such as for World Nursery Rhyme Week and International Language Day where every class learnt a song in a foreign language. We celebrate any special national or world events through music such as learning songs to sing for royal jubilees and coronations.

Our choir comprises of children from Year One and Year Two and is fully inclusive. Each term parents have the opportunity to sign their child up to be a part of our choir and places are allocated on a first come first serve basis. Our choir regularly perform to the rest of the school during singing assemblies and therefore our pupils are also able to participate as audience members. The choir perform several times a year to a bereavement group at our local church and alongside Carrington Junior School choir at the village Christmas fair and school summer fete. This Christmas, choir children also got to perform at Cliveden National Trust.

Pupils in the Rock Steady bands have the opportunity to perform to parents and the rest of the school on a termly basis, again providing our pupils an opportunity to participate as audience members.

Our Reception children perform both traditional and modern songs as part of the Nativity to parents, as well as to Years One and Two. Children in Year Three and children from Carrington Pre-School are also invited to attend. Year Two children learn songs to sing to parents as part of their end of Infant School assembly. All these events are free.

In the future

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

- Widen range of musicians visiting school to perform to and with the children.
- Possible pupil premium funded visits for small groups of children.
- Develop further links with Buckinghamshire Music Education Hub to enhance provision further as relevant to the age of our children.
- Contact local care home to arrange choir visits and look for further opportunities for children to perform within our local community.

Further information (optional)

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond school.

