Music development plan summary: Sir John Heron Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026/27
Date this summary was published	July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	David Worth
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Habibah Shah
Name of local music hub	Newham Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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

This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music.

Music is taught through the Charanga scheme of work. Each Unit of Work in the scheme comprises of strands of musical learning which correspond with the National Curriculum for music:

- Listening and Appraising
- Musical Activities/Warm-up Games
    - Optional Flexible Games
    - Singing
    - Playing instruments
    - Improvisation
    - Composition
- Performing

Through their weekly hour-long lessons, children learn a range of songs, develop their vocal technique, build upon their instrumental skills, and learn to perform in ensembles. Performances are recorded so that the children can watch them and evaluate what they have done. We have a wide variety of percussion instruments that are used in music lessons, and children are also taught to play the ukulele, recorder and glockenspiel during their time here. Our music appreciation ensures a variety of music and genres are listened to and discussed.

Children with specific needs are supported in their music-making in various ways: with an adult, through adapted tasks or adapted resources. Discussions with children have demonstrated an increasing knowledge of key music vocabulary being recalled. Observations have shown all pupils are engaged and active during the lessons, including SEND. Our HLTA who delivers music lessons has benefitted from CPD sessions with the BBC Orchestra, which has allowed him to develop his music pedagogy.

Children are assessed against the requirements of the National Curriculum each term. Assessments are recorded on BromCom, which facilitates the tracking of progress.

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.

We encourage the exploration of music outside of music lessons. We have invested in brand new instruments for our children. Our SEND provision, EYFS and KS1 classes have access to musical instruments in class all the time so that they can be used by the children throughout the week, and in other subjects where appropriate. The purchase of a range of instruments for classes has been funded by the music enrichment grant from Newham Council.

In developing our collaboration with outside agencies, our SEND children have had the opportunity to work with members of the BBC Orchestra for a number of sessions, and performed to KS2 children, demonstrating what they learnt with the musicians.

Children in KS2 have the opportunity to join a lunch-time choir. Singing techniques are developed, such as breath control, intonation and articulation, as is the skill of singing effectively in an ensemble. Weekly keyboard lessons are also offered through an external provider, the Piano Fun Club

Songs also play a part in the children's learning in subjects such as mathematics and English. For example, songs from Anchor Creative Education are used to help children

grasp aspects of grammar in English, and children have commented on how they enjoy the songs, and how much they help them to recall things.

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.

During the academic year, children will have opportunities for other musical experiences. These include singing and performing, such as the Christmas Nativity, as well as taking part in workshops, such as African drumming.

Classes taking part in termly sharing assemblies, to which parents are invited, often include music and song in their presentations. These show-case the work they have been doing in class music lessons.

The final assembly of the academic year is also an opportunity for the children to sing: each year group performs a different song to the rest of the school. Children also learn and sing the school song, the SJH Anthem, which brings the whole school community together through the shared act of singing.

In the future

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

In the subsequent years to come, we will continue to build on our music progress by continuously re-evaluating the curriculum when there are changes in the National Curriculum and model music curriculum, taking into account the needs and interests of our children. We are going to continue to develop children's composition skills and the recording of this. We will continue to develop our school choir and children's performance skills with increased opportunities for them to perform throughout the year, hopefully including in the local community. We would love to provide our children with more opportunities to watch live music performances and continue to develop a strong pupil voice. Furthermore, we will continue to provide our staff with relevant CPD to continue to develop their confidence and subject knowledge, as well as providing development opportunities for our HLTA who delivers the main music lessons to classes.