

Music development plan summary

Thurgoland C.E. Primary School



Music plays a central role in the life of Thurgoland C.E. Primary School. Rooted in our Christian vision, inspired by the Parable of the Mustard Seed, we believe that every child begins with great potential which, when nurtured, can grow and flourish. Our school values — Love to learn, Aim high, Show respect, Be resilient and Give it a go — guide our music provision, ensuring that every child is supported and challenged to “be their best self.”

Our curriculum ensures that every pupil receives high-quality, weekly music teaching that builds musical knowledge, skills and cultural understanding. Supported by expert provision from Barnsley Music Hub, children access singing, instrumental learning, composition and performance across all key stages. Through choirs, ensembles, instrumental tuition and whole-school performances, pupils learn to work collaboratively, express themselves creatively and take pride in their achievements.

Music at Thurgoland also plays a vital role in supporting pupil wellbeing and personal development. We recognise music as a powerful tool for emotional expression, confidence-building and belonging. By nurturing each child’s musical “seed” — whether through performing, creating or listening — we ensure that music is not only a curriculum subject, but a source of joy, connection and flourishing for our whole school community.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 -27
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Beth Wise
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Accountable: Beth Wise/SLT Responsible: Beth Wise
Name of local music hub	Barnsley Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Barnsley Youth Choir Rock Steady

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 and any music qualifications or awards those pupils could achieve.

How Music is Delivered at Thurgoland C.E. Primary School

Curriculum Music Lessons

- Music is taught by class teachers and HLTAs using the Kapow Music scheme of work, which is carefully sequenced to ensure progression in musical knowledge, skills and vocabulary from EYFS to Year 6.
- Whole-class instrumental tuition is provided for Year 4 by Barnsley Music Hub, enabling all pupils to develop instrumental performance skills.
- All pupils receive at least one hour of curriculum music each week.
- EYFS: One discrete music lesson each week, with additional musical experiences available through continuous provision.
- KS1: One hour of music each week, which may be delivered as two 30-minute sessions where appropriate.
- KS2: One-hour weekly music lesson alongside weekly singing opportunities.
- Weekly singing forms an important part of school life through singing assemblies and collective worship, developing pupils' confidence, enjoyment and sense of community.
- This provision meets the expectations of the National Plan for Music Education by ensuring all pupils receive a minimum of one hour of curriculum music each week.

Curriculum Enhancement

Curriculum music is enhanced through a range of additional opportunities including:

- Weekly school choir for pupils in Years 3–6.
- Whole-class Year 4 recorder tuition delivered by Barnsley Music Hub.
- Peripatetic instrumental tuition, including guitar, brass and woodwind.
- Opportunities to work towards graded music examinations through Trinity College London and the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM).
- Opportunities to perform in school, church and the local community throughout the academic year.

Musical Performance Opportunities

All pupils perform regularly throughout the year.

These include:

- Harvest Festival at Holy Trinity Church
- Christmas performances, including the EYFS and KS1 Nativity
- Collective Worship and Celebration Worship
- Year 6 end-of-year production
- Choir performances and community events
- Young Voices participation

Every pupil participates in at least one musical performance each academic year, with many pupils performing on multiple occasions.

Curriculum Structure

- The National Curriculum is followed throughout Key Stages 1 and 2, with the EYFS Framework followed in Reception.
- Kapow Primary Music is used as the school's core music curriculum. The scheme is fully aligned to the National Curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum, ensuring clear progression in musical knowledge, skills and vocabulary from EYFS to Year 6.
- A whole-school Listening Calendar broadens pupils' knowledge of composers, musicians, genres and musical traditions from a diverse range of cultures and historical periods.
- Music teaching develops progression across:
 - Listening and Appraising
 - Singing
 - Playing Instruments
 - Improvising and Composing
 - Reading and Using Musical Notation
 - Performing

Classroom Practice

Music lessons are practical, engaging and inclusive.

Pupils regularly:

- sing
- play tuned and untuned instruments
- improvise
- compose
- perform
- listen critically to music
- evaluate and improve their own work.

Teaching focuses on active music-making, with practical experiences taking priority over lengthy written recording.

Teachers explicitly teach musical vocabulary and encourage pupils to discuss, evaluate and reflect on music using appropriate terminology.

Lessons promote the school's values by encouraging pupils to be resilient, creative, respectful and willing to "Give it a Go".

Assessment and Feedback

Assessment is ongoing and informs future teaching.

Teachers assess pupils' developing:

- musical knowledge
- practical skills

- vocabulary
- performance
- composition
- listening and appraisal skills.

Music Floor Books are used across the school to capture pupils' musical learning and progression, key learning, vocabulary, performances and reflections, ensuring lesson time remains focused on practical music-making rather than unnecessary written recording.

Kapow assessment materials support teachers in making consistent judgements about pupils' progress.

Live verbal feedback, peer assessment and self-reflection are used regularly to help pupils refine and improve their musical performance.

Achievement is celebrated through performances, celebration assemblies and Headteacher Awards.

Supporting and Challenging Pupils

All pupils are supported to access ambitious musical learning.

Teachers use adaptive teaching strategies, including:

- modelling
- scaffolding
- visual prompts
- practical rehearsal
- mixed-attainment grouping
- additional adult support where appropriate.

Pupils who demonstrate particular musical interest or aptitude are encouraged to extend their learning through leadership opportunities, instrumental tuition, composition and performance.

Music, Wellbeing and Personal Development

Music plays an important role in promoting pupils' wellbeing, confidence and personal development.

Through singing, listening, performing and composing, pupils develop:

- confidence and resilience
- teamwork and collaboration
- creativity
- self-expression
- a sense of belonging within the school community.

Music contributes positively to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and supports the school's vision of enabling every child to **'Be and Become their Best Self.'**

Part B: Co-curricular/Extra - Curricular music opportunities

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.

Pupils at Thurgoland CE Primary School have access to a wide range of musical opportunities beyond the taught curriculum. These experiences enable pupils to develop their musical skills, confidence, teamwork and enjoyment of music, while providing clear progression routes for those wishing to continue their musical learning.

Peripatetic Instrumental Tuition

Pupils in Years 2–6 can access individual or small-group instrumental tuition delivered by visiting specialist music teachers.

Current instruments include:

- Keyboard
- Guitar
- Clarinet
- Flute
- Saxophone
- Brass (including trumpet, cornet and trombone)

Pupils may work towards nationally recognised graded examinations through ABRSM or Trinity College London, where appropriate.

Instrument hire is available through Barnsley Music Hub and financial support is available for eligible pupils through Pupil Premium funding.

Whole-Class Instrumental Tuition

All pupils in Year 4 participate in whole-class recorder tuition delivered in partnership with Barnsley Music Hub.

The programme develops pupils' confidence in:

- reading simple notation
- playing as part of an ensemble
- performing to an audience
- building the skills needed for future instrumental learning.

School Choir

The school choir is open to pupils in Years 3–6 and rehearses weekly.

Choir members perform regularly throughout the year at school and community events, developing:

- vocal technique
- ensemble skills
- confidence in performance
- commitment and teamwork.

Musical Performances

All pupils take part in musical performances throughout the academic year.

These include:

- Harvest Festival
- Christmas performances, including the EYFS and KS1 Nativity
- Collective Worship and church services
- Year 6 end-of-year production
- School and community celebrations

These opportunities enable pupils to perform for a range of audiences and celebrate their musical learning.

Barnsley Youth Choir

Pupils have the opportunity to participate in Barnsley Youth Choir opportunities, taking part in workshops and rehearsals which culminate in a massed choir performance.

Pupils are also encouraged to continue their musical involvement through local choirs and community music groups beyond school.

Rocksteady Music School

Rocksteady delivers weekly rock and pop band lessons in school.

Pupils rehearse and perform as part of a band, developing:

- instrumental skills
- ensemble performance
- confidence
- collaboration
- performance experience.

Participation is arranged directly with Rocksteady.

Continuing Musical Learning

Pupils wishing to extend their musical learning are encouraged to access additional opportunities through Barnsley Music Hub, including:

- instrumental tuition
- ensembles
- music centres
- holiday and weekend music opportunities.

Pupils who learn instruments both in and out of school are encouraged to perform in assemblies and school events and to celebrate graded examination successes with the wider school community.

Part C: Musical experiences/events/performances

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.

Music is an important part of life at Thurgoland CE Primary School. Throughout the year, pupils take part in a wide range of musical experiences that enrich the taught curriculum, develop confidence, performance skills, creativity and teamwork, while promoting enjoyment and wellbeing.

These opportunities enable pupils to perform to different audiences, experience live music and develop a lifelong appreciation of music.

Singing

Singing is a strength of the school and forms an important part of school life.

Pupils participate in:

- Weekly singing assemblies and Collective Worship.
- Hymns linked to the Christian calendar and school values.
- Whole-school singing during church services and celebrations.

Musical Performances

Every pupil performs throughout the academic year.

Performance opportunities include:

- Harvest Festival
- Christmas performances, including the EYFS and KS1 Nativity
- Easter and Leavers' Services
- Year 6 end-of-year production
- School celebrations and community events

These opportunities develop confidence, resilience and pride in achievement.

Choir

The school choir is open to pupils in Years 3–6.

Choir members rehearse weekly and perform regularly at school and within the local community, including collaborative performances with local choirs where appropriate.

Instrumental Performance

Pupils have opportunities to develop their performance skills through:

- Year 4 whole-class recorder tuition
- Rocksteady Music School
- Peripatetic instrumental tuition
- Music assemblies celebrating instrumental learning

Wider Musical Opportunities

Pupils are encouraged to participate in musical experiences beyond the classroom, including:

- Young Voices
- Barnsley Youth Choir
- Performances by visiting musicians
- Demonstration performances from instrumental teachers
- Opportunities to perform in assemblies and community events
- Thurgoland's Got Talent

Celebrating Musical Achievement

Musical achievement is celebrated throughout the school.

Pupils regularly:

- perform in assemblies
- celebrate graded music examinations
- share instrumental performances

- perform to parents and the wider community.

Music and Wellbeing

Music contributes significantly to pupils' personal development and wellbeing.

Through singing, listening, composing and performing, pupils develop:

- confidence
- resilience
- creativity
- teamwork
- self-expression
- a sense of belonging.

Music supports the school's vision of enabling every child to 'Be and Become their Best Self.'

In the future

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

Thurgoland CE Primary School is committed to continually developing the quality of music education so that every pupil experiences a broad, ambitious and inclusive music curriculum.

Over the next academic year we will focus on the following priorities.

1. Embedding the Curriculum

- Continue to embed Kapow Primary Music to ensure consistent progression in musical knowledge, skills and vocabulary from EYFS to Year 6.
- Embed the whole-school Listening Calendar so that pupils develop secure knowledge of composers, musicians, musical genres and traditions from different cultures and historical periods.
- Review pupil voice annually to evaluate the impact of the Listening Calendar on pupils' knowledge of composers, genres and musical traditions.
- Continue to develop the use of Music Floor Books to capture pupils' musical learning, vocabulary, performances and reflections while ensuring lessons remain practical and focused on active music-making.
- Introduce the Kapow assessment materials to support consistent assessment of pupils' musical knowledge, skills and vocabulary.

2. Musical Progression

- Continue Year 4 whole-class recorder tuition in partnership with Barnsley Music Hub.
- Monitor the impact of Year 4 recorder tuition on pupils' confidence, musical understanding and progression into upper Key Stage 2.
- Strengthen links between whole-class instrumental tuition and the wider music curriculum.

- Review progression across listening, performing, composing and appraisal to ensure pupils build musical understanding sequentially across the school.
- Continue to develop pupils' confidence in discussing and evaluating music using subject-specific vocabulary.

3. Professional Development

- Continue to engage with professional development opportunities provided by Barnsley Music Hub.
- Share effective classroom practice through professional discussion and collaboration.
- Use curriculum monitoring, staff voice and professional dialogue to identify future professional development priorities and share effective practice.
- Continue to develop oracy within music lessons to strengthen musical reasoning, discussion and reflection.

4. Musical Enrichment

- Sustain the school's strong culture of singing through weekly singing assemblies, choir and regular performances.
- Continue to provide a wide range of opportunities for pupils to perform, including whole-class performances, church services, choir, recorder tuition and community events.
- Promote progression into wider musical opportunities, including Barnsley Youth Choir, Barnsley Music Hub ensembles, Rocksteady and instrumental tuition.
- Continue to develop partnerships that enhance pupils' musical experiences.

Through continual review, high-quality teaching and rich musical experiences, Thurgoland CE Primary School is committed to ensuring every child develops as a confident, creative and enthusiastic musician, ready to continue their musical journey beyond primary school.

Further information

Parents and carers wishing to find out more about music education and opportunities beyond school are encouraged to visit the Barnsley Music Hub, which provides information about instrumental tuition, ensembles, choirs, holiday activities, instrument hire and progression routes for young musicians.

The Department for Education also publishes guidance for parents and carers about music education and how they can support their child's musical development both in and out of school.

Thurgoland CE Primary School works in partnership with Barnsley Music Hub to enhance pupils' musical experiences through whole-class instrumental tuition, instrumental lessons and wider musical opportunities. Families are encouraged to

explore these opportunities to support children's continued musical development beyond the classroom.