



Music Development Plan

2025 - 2026

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Music Development Plan Summary

Where We Were at the End of Summer 2025

By the end of Summer 2025, our school continued to enjoy a strong and well-established Music tradition. Singing was embedded across the curriculum, with children participating confidently in Hymn Practice, classroom music sessions and regular performances at Harvest, Christmas, Easter and end-of-year services.

Our large school choir met weekly after school and performed at several major events, including:

- Young Voices in Manchester
- Calderdale Music Trust's Voices Together at the Victoria Theatre
- The school's Summer Picnic
- Lightcliffe Village Gala

The school orchestra played a significant role in musical life, rehearsing weekly and contributing to Friday Whole School Worship while expanding their repertoire.

Instrumental provision was also thriving. By Summer 2025, 71 pupils were learning instruments in school through sessions delivered by visiting teachers from Calderdale Music Hub and Miss Spencer-Kennedy from Friendly Brass Band.

The year's work culminated in the annual music concert, held on 28th March 2025 at Lightcliffe Academy. Performances showcased the choir, orchestra, boys' rock band, girls' pop band and a selection of instrumentalists.

Sadly, we said goodbye to Mrs Webb who led our school music development for 25 years. Mrs Webb has left a legacy of excellent musical opportunities for Lightcliffe pupils, and we thank her for her service.

Where We Are Going – Growth Under New Leadership (From Sept 2025)

From September 2025, we are delighted to welcome a new and enthusiastic Music Leader who will continue the rich musical traditions that shape our school's identity.

Under their leadership:

- All existing strengths will continue, including high-quality singing, regular performances and ongoing opportunities for children to participate in choir, bands and instrumental lessons.
- The school orchestra will pause temporarily at the start of the academic year. This planned pause will allow time to review, rebuild and expand the orchestra thoughtfully, with a view to relaunching and strengthening it later in the summer term.
- Choir and instrumental tuition will continue as usual, maintaining continuity and ensuring that pupils' musical experiences remain broad, vibrant and fully inclusive. The Young Voices Concert in Manchester will continue to be the choir's highlight, with other local opportunities available throughout the year.

- The new Music Leader will develop and expand opportunities across the year, supporting even more pupils to engage with music-making, performance and musical leadership

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	June 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs VL Webb / Miss E Gunton
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Calderdale Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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 that pupils can achieve.

Since September 2024 all year groups, taught by class teachers or HLTA's follow the Sing Up Curriculum Scheme, which ensures progression, development and a range of opportunities for listening, appraising, composing and performing.

Sing Up Music - Units at a glance (1-year teaching cycle)



		A		B	
		6 weeks		6 weeks	
		3 weeks	3 weeks	3 weeks	3 weeks
Term 1					
Nursery	<i>Let's be friends</i>			<i>Travel and movement</i>	
Reception	<i>I've got a grumpy face</i>	<i>The sorcerer's apprentice</i>		<i>Witch, witch</i>	<i>Row, row, row your boat</i>
Year 1	<i>Menu song*</i>			<i>Colonel Hathi's march</i>	<i>Magical musical aquarium</i>
Year 2	<i>Tony Chestnut*</i>			<i>Carnival of the animals</i>	<i>Composing music inspired by birdsong</i>
Year 3	<i>I've been to Harlem*</i>			<i>Nao chariya de/Mingulay boat song</i>	<i>Sound symmetry</i>
Year 4	<i>This little light of mine*</i>			<i>'Theme' from The Pink Panther</i>	<i>Composing with colour</i>
Year 5	<i>What shall we do with the drunken sailor?*</i>			<i>Why we sing</i>	<i>Introduction to songwriting</i>
Year 6	<i>Hey, Mr Miller*</i>			<i>Shadows</i>	<i>Composing for protest!</i>
Term 2					
Nursery	<i>This is me</i>			<i>Animal tea party</i>	
Reception	<i>Bird spotting; Cuckoo polka</i>	<i>Shake my sillies out</i>		<i>Up and down</i>	<i>Five fine bumble bees</i>
Year 1	<i>Football*</i>			<i>'Dawn' from Sea interludes</i>	<i>Musical conversations</i>
Year 2	<i>Grandma rap*</i>			<i>Orawa</i>	<i>Trains</i>
Year 3	<i>Latin dance (Classroom percussion)*</i>			<i>'March' from The nutcracker</i>	<i>From a railway carriage</i>
Year 4	<i>The doot doot song (Classroom percussion)*</i>			<i>Fanfare for the common man</i>	<i>Spain</i>
Year 5	<i>Madina tun nabi*</i>			<i>Building a groove</i>	<i>Época</i>
Year 6	<i>Dona nobis pacem*</i>			<i>You to me are everything</i>	<i>Twinkle variations</i>
Term 3					
Nursery	<i>I've got feelings</i>			<i>Let's jam!</i>	
Reception	<i>Down there under the sea</i>	<i>It's oh so quiet</i>	<i>Slap clap clap</i>		<i>Bow, bow, bow Belinda</i>
Year 1	<i>Dancing and drawing to Nautilus</i>	<i>Cat and mouse</i>		<i>Come dance with me*</i>	
Year 2	<i>Swing-a-long with Shostakovich</i>	<i>Charlie Chaplin</i>		<i>Tańczymy labada *</i>	
Year 3	<i>Just three notes</i>	<i>Samba with Sérgio</i>		<i>Fly with the stars (Classroom percussion)*</i>	
Year 4	<i>Global pentatonics</i>	<i>The horse in motion</i>		<i>Favourite song (Classroom percussion)*</i>	
Year 5	<i>Balinese gamelan</i>	<i>Composing in ternary form</i>		<i>Kisne banaaya*</i>	
Year 6	<i>Race!</i>	<i>Exploring identity through song</i>		<i>Ame sau vala tara bai*</i>	

* Progression units

School is well-resourced for the teaching of music, having a dedicated Music Room with two pianos, two drum kits and a range of tuned and untuned percussion instruments (two trolleys of untuned percussion instruments and a class set of glockenspiels).

Whole Class Ensemble Tuition led by Verity Quarmby (Woodwind specialist teacher with Calderdale Music Hub) has continued in Y4, with the children receiving Whole Class Ensemble Tuition in flute with instruments hired from Calderdale Music Trust. Parents have signed an agreement so that the children are able to take their instruments home to practise. Eight of the Y4 children joined the school orchestra in the Summer Term, playing 2nd Flute. Whole class Ensemble Tuition will remain in Y4 with Mrs Quarmby teaching flute. It is hoped that children showing flair for the instrument will sign up to have instrumental lessons beyond Y4.

Children regularly sing in lessons across the curriculum, as well as in Worship, with all adults in school joining in singing. There is a weekly KS2 Hymn Practice led by the Music Leader, and EYFS / KS1 practice chosen hymns (either a cappella or to backing tracks) in their classrooms, in addition to singing in their Worship time.

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.

Our school offers 1:1, paired and small group instrumental tuition for piano, drums, violin, clarinet, flute and guitar through Calderdale Music Hub. Brass instrumental lessons are taught by Harriette Spencer-Kennedy from Friendly Brass Band. Lessons are taught in our school Music Room and are paid for by parents (pupil premium funding could be considered in order to fund lessons).

The school choir, led by the Music Leader, practices in the school hall on Thursdays 3:15pm – 4:15pm and is open to all KS2 pupils. This is fully funded by school.

The school orchestra, which is also fully funded by school, is led by the Music Leader. The orchestra rehearses in the school hall on Fridays at 2pm and also performs as the whole school enters and leaves the hall for whole school worship on Friday afternoons. The orchestra is for children with skills from foundation level upwards and parts are created for various levels of ability to ensure access. The orchestra is currently paused as our new Music Leader establishes her role.

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.

Singing is part of every worship. For KS2 worship and whole school worship, the Music Leader leads singing. EYFS and KS1 worship is led by Mrs Brooke, either a cappella or to a backing track.

There is a weekly Singing Worship for KS2 led by the Music Leader, where new hymns are introduced or themed hymns are rehearsed for services and events. For EYFS and KS1, class teachers lead singing in their classrooms either a cappella or with a backing track.

KS2 Choir performs at: the Young Voices concert at the Co-op Live Arena, Manchester; the Calderdale Music Hub's Voices Together concert at the Victoria Theatre Halifax (this event is paused for the academic year 2025-26); the school PFSA events eg. the Christmas Fair; Lightcliffe Village Gala.

Pupils who play instruments, in or out of school, have the opportunity to busk at the Christmas Fair in school, entertaining the queue for Santa's Grotto.

Y5 and Y6 members of the school choir perform seasonal carols and songs for the residents of Sandholme Residential Home in Hipperholme at Christmas, and children in the choir, who also play instruments, perform their Christmas pieces.

The School Annual Music Concert is held in the drama hall at Lightcliffe Academy at the end of the Spring Term and involves the school choir, orchestra, pupil-led bands and many of the children having instrumental tuition in school. Tickets are sold to raise funds for Music in school.

All year groups take part in Harvest Festivals either in the school hall or at St. Matthew's Church, performing songs.

All year groups take part in a musical performance at Christmas whether it be a nativity, Christmas play or Christingle in church. Children have the opportunity to perform through singing and the playing of instruments.

All year groups take part in the school Easter Service, held at St. Matthew's Church, by performing songs.

All Y6 pupils take part in the leavers' play, which is a musical play performed for the whole school and with two performances for parents and family.

The Leavers' Service for Y6 is held in church with Y6 performing their leavers' song as well as the whole school joining in with singing.

Music specialists from Calderdale Music have performed in school inspiring children to take an interest in learning to play an instrument.

In the future

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

To continue to use the Sing Up scheme with music lessons regularly timetabled. This will be monitored by the Music Leader.

To continue the proud musical tradition under the leadership of a new Music lead, by continuing the school choir and the attendance at the Young Voices Concert; slowly reintroducing the orchestra to school with new pieces to play and inspiring more children to join.

Music specialists from the Music Hub to continue to promote orchestral instruments through leading assemblies.

To enable the children to see and listen to high quality live performances.

Music Leader to maintain links with Friendly Brass Band and to make links with other local bands and professionals in the music industry who will be able to enhance our provision further.

Further information (optional)