



Music Development Plan Summary for Yorkley Primary School & Parkend Primary School (The Forest of Dean Community School Federation)

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was written	07.09.25
Date this summary will be reviewed (Governor's meeting)	24.11.25
Name of the school music lead	Miss L Southgate
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Gloucestershire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Charanga Musical School

Yorkley and Parkend Primary School are maintained schools within 'The Forest of Dean Community Schools Federation' in the Forest of Dean. This document is a summary of how our schools deliver 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 schools offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

Vision and Intent:

At FOD Community Schools Federation, the intention is that children gain a firm understanding of what music is, through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres.

Children will develop and learn the vocabulary of music enabling them to deepen their subject knowledge and communication skills. The music curriculum is supported by our individual drivers.

Yorkley:	Parkend:
- Belonging	- Knowing Me
- Building Me	- Future Me
- Communication	- Articulate Me
- Creativity	- Creative Me
- Active Adventure	- Stronger Me

Our objective across the federation is to develop a curiosity for music, as well as an understanding of how music is used to communicate ideas and emotions, which can express a sense of belonging and identity. We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community so they can use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

Our music curriculum enables children to develop knowledge and skills that are communicable to other curriculum areas and are used to promote spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development as well as developing their communication skills.

Part A: Curriculum Music

This is about what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualification or awards that pupils can achieve.

Progression Document and Long Term Plans:

To find our progression documents for Music at Yorkley and Parkend Primary School visit the school website, under curriculum select Music and the documents are attached at the bottom of the page labelled 'EYFS Coverage & Progression document,' as well as the Long Term Plan to see our Music Overview for the academic year.

Music and our pupils

Both Yorkley & Parkend Primary School have access to instruments that all children can access. All year groups have a 30-minute lesson of music weekly. As part of our partnership with Make Music Gloucestershire (GSW Music Hub

made up of Gloucestershire, Swindon and Wiltshire) we are able to work collaboratively to adapt instruments for all children including those with SEND.

For more information, see the school information guidance on curriculum and SEND for maintained school using the following link -

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/what-maintained-schools-must-publish-online>

Model Music Curriculum:

Across the Forest of Dean Community School Federation our curriculum is informed from the Model Music Curriculum which was created back in 2021 as part of the Governments agenda for supporting the music curriculum in schools. The curriculum development has been teacher led, input from leading musicians and education sector bodies. To read more the Model Music Curriculum Document can be found using this link -

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6061f6a3e90e072d94e6f920/Model_Music_Curriculum_Key_Stage_1_2_FINAL.pdf

Using Charanga Musical School as a resource, it has helped us to develop our Music Curriculum further and has supported the curriculum for all pupils in our schools to have a universal provision of musical education.

Summary of singing and instruments across the federation:

- In EYFS & KS1 across both schools, all children take part in a Christmas / Winter Performance where they are able to display their love of singing as well as perform to the whole school and parents /carers.
- All children in Year 6 (Yorkley) and Year 3/4/5/6 (Parkend) take part in an end of year production to celebrate all of their learning and their individual journey throughout school. They perform songs to the whole school and to parents / carers.
- Children in KS2 at Parkend School and Year 3 & 5 can access WCET (Whole Class Ensemble Teaching) in a variety of different instruments. Instruments they have learnt over the years have been a mixture of brass, recorders, ukuleles, samba and violins.
- In Year 4 & 6 at Yorkley School the children engage in a recorder and djembe drums course which leads to a performance at the end of the unit.
- Singing Assemblies occur regularly across the term for the children to practice singing in part of a large choir.
- Children have singing lessons in the classroom as part of the Music lessons.

Partnerships:

Make Music Gloucestershire (GSW Music Hub made up of Gloucestershire, Swindon and Wiltshire)

Make Music Gloucestershire (GSW) is our partnership for Music in Gloucestershire. They are supportive and work closely with Music Leads to support the Music Curriculum across our schools. Nick Steel (music manager) has visited and completed a music audit on our instruments.

GM organise and deliver a range of Musical CPD to staff and Music leads to continue to develop and upskill everyone's Music knowledge.

Charanga Musical School

Charanga Music School offer a range of CPD and training videos for staff to watch and leaders to support with subject knowledge. They often have local training sessions focusing on one specific skill of music at a time. Their sessions are highly attended and are well known, so support leaders and staff with their musical knowledge.

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.

Tuition at Yorkley School:

- Piano lessons are offered at school so please get in touch if you would like further details.

Tuition available to both school:

- Gloucestershire Music Peri Lesson for individual and small group tutoring
 - instrument lessons are available from Gloucestershire Music and can be organised to take part in school. More information can be found here - <https://www.gloucestershiremusic.co.uk/>
- Music instruments can be hired from Gloucestershire Music and there are bursaries available for young people who can demonstrate financial hardship.

In lesson times, both school across the whole federation readily use percussion (glockenspiels) and recorders as well as exploring with other instruments.

Young Voices / Choir

Each year, children take part in a Choir club in Autumn 2 to practice for performances within the community. Our main event is at Taurus Crafts - Yorkley & Parkend each have a slot and both choirs are able to showcase their singing skills in an open forum.

Yorkley has participated in Young Voices a few times in the past. Now federated, both schools have attended Young Voices in January 2025. This is a fantastic opportunity where children from Year 4 - 6 can join in and engage in performing songs to an arena full of people in Birmingham. This will form part of the musical opportunities offered to both schools taking place every other year. We view this as an amazing opportunity for the children to be able to experience and be part of.

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.

- Brass band coming in at Christmas time to share and showcase winter songs prior to the end of term.
- 'Music a Day' built into each classes day to develop children's knowledge of genres and artists / composers as well as to provoke feelings of emotions when listening to different types of music to form children's personal opinion on their musical likes and dislikes.
- Both Yorkley and Parkend School Choir attend and perform at Taurus Crafts and at Parkend Church over the Christmas period and it is a real celebration out in the community.
- Young Voices allows for children to be part of a massive choir in an arena setting and is an amazing experience for the children to see a live performance.
- At the end of Autumn Term 2 the KS2 pupils from both schools participate in the London Sinfonietta Postcard challenge which links to improvisation, composition, notation and performance.
- KS2 pupils perform to parents and carers showcasing their learning from their WCET Music lessons.
- EYFS & KS1 pupils perform a play in Autumn 2 showcasing their developing singing skills to parents and the whole school.
- Year 6 perform their end of year play to parents and the rest of the school showcasing their singing journey throughout the school.

For more information, see the 'Enhanced Musical Development Document' at the bottom of the Music page for both schools.

In the future

This is what the school is planning for subsequent years.

- Building on children's knowledge about different genres of music and composers / artists linking to singing assemblies.
- Updated Music Passports with notation ideas for recording in Music books & key terminology for the children to use. A clear layout for assessment at the end of every big term (Autumn, Spring & Summer).
- Building into the progression documents for each year group spaced retrieval of 'last lesson', 'last unit' & 'last year' to aid with recall of learning over time.