

Music development plan summary: Portsdown Primary School and Early Years

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	July 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Lauren Symonds
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/a
Name of local music hub	Portsmouth Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Portsmouth in the Community (Makaton Choir)

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.

At Portsdown, we use the scheme Kapow to implement our Music curriculum which is supported by the National Curriculum. We aim to deliver a high quality music education which is designed to inspire all children to make music with others; to learn to sing; and to have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence if they wish to. Each year group from Reception to Year 6 have 4 units of 5 lessons to deliver appropriately across the year. Teachers decide when each unit would be best taught and move unit's dependant on the needs of the children and the curriculum. Children have the opportunity to learn the basics of some percussion instruments during their lessons, such as the glockenspiel.

Our local music hub, Portsmouth Music Hub provide support and advice and loan out instruments for free for our school to use to support the curriculum teaching.

Part B: Co-curricular music (Extra-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.

At Portsdown, we do not currently offer any music tuition. This is something that has previously been looked in to but not enough interest was given for it to be beneficial.

Our school currently hosts a Makaton Choir, run by Pompey in the community, where the children learn to sing songs whilst learning Makaton too.

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.

Children currently take part in a singing assembly once a week which is led by a class teacher. These assemblies are held in two separate key stages (1 and 2).

The whole school learnt a city-wide Christmas song and were filmed as part of a music video performing. This was then edited into a video along with several other schools around the city. The children then watched it back in class. This is something that as a school, we will aim to join in with again in the future (for different celebrations and events).

Year R took part in a Diwali workshop which was hosted by an external provider. Here they listened to music and learnt a dance alongside the music.

Year 1 and 2 take part in Infant Voices yearly, run by Portsmouth Music Hub, where the children spend a half term learning songs focused around one main theme. The children then perform the songs along with other local primary schools. In previous years the children have taken part in a showcase and performed at Portsmouth Guildhall to an audience. In the previous academic year, parents were invited in to watch a show put on by Year 1 and 2.

Every year group has experienced a music workshop, run by Portsmouth Music Hub which focuses on a different theme appropriate to that year group, for example year 2 had a boom whacker workshop and year R did a junk percussion workshop. It has been decided that these will not be continued next year so as to focus more on the curriculum delivery, rather than a standalone workshop.

In the future

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

- Look to improve the range of instruments that we have available as a school and create whole class sets. Apply for funding to support with this.
- Explore different ways that the children can be exposed and involved with live music. Consider costs and staffing when planning.
- Consider the updates in the Kapow scheme and how this will impact the teaching of KS2. Also factor in no peripatetic lessons for Year 4 next year and what this means for them.
- Curriculum review in Autumn 2025 to see how the teaching of music is going and what needs to happen going forward.