

Music development plan summary: Portsmouth Primary School and Early Years



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Zoe Bill
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/a
Name of local music hub	Portsmouth Music Service
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.

At Portsmouth, we have continued to use and embed the music scheme provided by Kapow in order to implement our music curriculum. Kapow's curriculum is designed to support 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 music across the year. Teachers decide when each unit is best taught and dependant upon the needs of the children and the curriculum. Children have the opportunity to learn the basics of some percussion instruments during their lesson times such as using the glockenspiel.

Differentiation and adaptation: The Kapow scheme provides built-in support for differentiation and adaptation to meet the needs of all learners. Each lesson includes guidance for supporting pupils who need additional help and challenge activities for those working at greater depth. This ensures that all children, including those with SEND, can access and make progress in music education. Teachers use these resources alongside their knowledge of individual pupils to adapt lessons appropriately.

Our local music hub, Portsmouth Music Hub, gives support and advice and loans out instruments for free for our school to use.

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 individual or small group instrumental music tuition. This is something we continue to review based on pupil and parent interest.

For the 2025-2026 academic year, the children were able to join a choir (led by Portsmouth in the Community). This choir performed for the residents at a local nursing home.

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 separately for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Nursery and Year R also participate in singing opportunities and there are musical instruments available in the nursery and Year R for the children to select and use.

The whole school learnt a city-wide Christmas song and were filmed as part of a music video performing it. This was then edited into a video along with several other schools around the city. The children then watched it back in class.

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 the future

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

- Continue to review and 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. NB: instruments in Year R have been renewed.
- Continue to explore different ways that the children can be exposed and involved with live music. Consider costs and staffing when planning.
- Ensure updates to the music curriculum planning and resources are used to support the teaching of music across the school.
- Trial the use of digital floorbooks to replace the paper copies.
- Review of music teaching as part of the curriculum reviews undertaken by the school, in order to see how the teaching of music is going and what needs to happen going forward.

