

Music Development Plan Summary

Thackley Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	August 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	August 2026
Name of the school music lead	Gemma O'Hora
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Bradford Music and Arts – part of the West Yorkshire Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

Part A: Curriculum music

At Thackley Primary School, we meet the National Curriculum for Music by using a combination of parts of the Model Music Curriculum alongside the music platform 'Charanga'. The four areas of the music curriculum (Listen & Appraise, Performing, Playing and Composing) are taught in every year group. The National Curriculum Key Stage objectives are broken down into smaller steps for each year group that build progressive skills, knowledge and vocabulary. We aim to ensure coverage of the learning intentions over the four areas of the music curriculum rather than using inflexible blocks of time within a weekly timetable. This allows us to use more time within the timetable when needed for example on the run up to a performance. Listen and Appraise units are focused on throughout the year. Performing units are focused on in Autumn terms, Playing units in Spring terms and Composing in Summer terms. Whole Class Ensemble teaching takes place in years three and five. In Year Three, pupils are taught the recorder by a skilled teacher within the school staff with support from the Music coordinator. A Recorder club is offered in Year Four to extend this. In Year Five, pupils are taught the Ukulele by an external music teacher from Bradford Music and Arts. A progression pathway is offered on to the guitar for pupils who are showing great skill, talent and enthusiasm. Thackley Primary works alongside Bradford Music and Arts Service and the West Yorkshire Music Hub.

Part B: Co-curricular music

At Thackley Primary School we work alongside Bradford Music and Arts Services and the West Yorkshire Music Hub to offer 1:1 and small group tuition for instruments. We have children who have direct-billed lessons in guitar and ukulele to extend their learning or to access the instrument at a younger age. We also have a progression pathway for children in year 5 to access guitar

lessons who are showing great skill, talent and enthusiasm for the instrument. These children are then encouraged to continue this as they move into Year 6. Through Bradford Music and Arts Service we offer brass lessons for children in KS2. We have an after school KS2 choir who prepare to perform at either Bradford School Prom at St George's Hall or Young Voices at Sheffield Arena. This academic year we will apply for Bradford School Prom. A Recorder Club runs for Year 4 children to allow them to build on their Whole Class Ensemble Teaching as part of the Year Three curriculum. Rock Steady lessons also run at Thackley Primary school. These are external lessons for children throughout school in drums, keyboard, electric guitar, bass guitar and vocals. Children are arranged into 'bands' and work together to perform pop and rock songs. They work towards a music qualification run by Rock Steady to show their skills. The wider range of opportunities for bands and ensembles after school, in the evenings and weekends within Bradford are shared with children who have music lessons.

Part C: Musical experiences

We aim to give our pupils as many Musical Experiences as possible within their time here at Thackley. We aim for our choir to take part in a large performance each year and alternate between applying for Bradford School Prom at St George's Hall and Young Voices at Sheffield Arena. Our Year Fives attend St George's Hall to play alongside the Hallé orchestra. We accept opportunities from Bradford Music and Arts Services and the West Yorkshire Music Hub when live music opportunities are offered. Alongside our Rock Steady children, we have a Staff Band who learn and perform a song at the concert to show the children that anyone can give music a go and step out of their comfort zone to perform. Our weekly whole school Singing Assemblies are a Music Experience in themselves with the whole school in attendance, from Nursery to Year 6. We learn and perform a wide ranging repertoire of songs. We listen and appraise a wide variety of songs over the year with a focus on expanding the children's wider music knowledge. Recorded performances are also shared. Over the year a diverse range of significant individuals are covered with both global and local significance. Our Singing Assemblies also give a performance opportunity to children to showcase what they have been learning in class, group tuition or clubs. We aim to include music in the wider experiences of our children wherever possible and our Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas and Easter celebrations always involve a musical element. Our annual 'Happy Week', promoting mental health, always contains a music element as well.

In the future

We are always looking for ways to improve the experiences of our pupils and all of our subjects are reviewed to look for development opportunities. This year, in September 2025 we will be starting the two year process of applying for the Arts Mark. This reflective and evaluative process will be engaged with fully to help the school look for areas to improve and then follow the process through to action this. We work actively with Bradford Music and Arts Service and the West Yorkshire Music Hub and take on board their extra offers. As we continue to roll out our progression pathway in Year Five, we will monitor its impact on the Year Six children who previously took part.

For further information, the Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.