

Music development plan summary: Crossways School overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	28/9/26
Date this summary will be reviewed	28/9/27
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Liz Rowen
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	WEMA
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 and how much time is spent teaching music.

Children receive music instruction year-round. We have carefully chosen comprehensive units from Charanga and WEMA, our local music hub. Charanga units support a creative and active musical approach to lessons, connecting singing and playing, composing and improvising, listening, performing and appraising. During these units, individual lessons last for at least 30-minutes.

Children also have the opportunity to learn instruments through whole-class ensemble tuition provided by WEMA. These sessions provide a 'jumping off' point for all children to dive into vocal and instrumental learning. Students in Year 1 take part in singing sessions and in Year 2 they explore percussion instruments through the Beat Bus unit. In Year 3, students learn the djembe drums; in Year 4, the ukulele; in Year 5, the

fife/toot and in Year 6 the T Sax. WEMA provides the instruments, ensuring they are well-maintained and in proper working condition.

The units are usually delivered in 10-week blocks, culminating in performances for other year groups and parents.

Children also take part in high quality weekly singing assemblies in their key stages which last around 20 minutes. They are taught a wide range of songs from different genres and with a range of meanings. The musical language in these assemblies aligns with the curriculum to reinforce the knowledge and skills being developed.

Our curriculum aligns with the Model Music curriculum, ensuring a comprehensive range of musical skills are taught. It is designed to show clear progression each year, helping children develop skills in composing, improvising, appraising, notating, and singing in parts. We ensure that the interrelated dimensions of music, such as pitch and dynamics, are integrated into all lessons, providing children with a working knowledge of these elements for composing and singing.

Part B: 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.

In Key Stage 1, year 2 children can join the choir and perform at various school events as well as within the community, such as the Thornbury Eisteddfod.

In Key Stage 2, children can learn instruments such as acoustic guitar, keyboard, violin, drums, flute, and ukulele in either individual or group sessions. Tuition is organised and booked through WEMA, with lessons conducted in a designated music space. Pupils entitled to Pupil Premium are eligible for free music lessons.

Children in KS2 can also join the school choir, which performs at various events. Choir practice, including vocal warm-ups and song rehearsals, is organised by Mrs Jane Sawyer.

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 have numerous performance opportunities throughout their time at the school. Year 1 showcase their singing talents during an end of unit concert in term 5, while Year 2 and 3 perform a seasonal performance at the end of term 2. Years 4 and 5 have performance opportunities during term 1 and term 4. Year 2 and Year 6 students rehearse and perform end-of-year shows for parents. Singing assemblies provide additional performance opportunities, allowing year groups to share songs or instruments they have been mastering. Individual students learning instruments also showcase their progress at the start of Key Stage assemblies. We value celebrating learning and sharing talents.

In the future

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

In 2026/27, we aim to expand our choirs by inviting Key Stage 1 children to join a singing group and continuing to grow our Key Stage 2 choir. Our goal for both choirs is to participate in performances at school events. We will participate in Leaf Trusts singing event at the Bristol Beacon. Additionally, we hope to invite local musicians and singing groups to perform at our school, giving our children more opportunities to experience high-quality live music. We would also like to engage in more community music events.

Further information

Our school's Music Development Plan is updated at the beginning of each academic year, providing the subject lead with a clear action plan to ensure that our music provision is effective and relevant for all our students. For more information on learning an instrument, joining an ensemble, or accessing further training opportunities, please visit WEMA.