

Music development plan summary: Long Crendon School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/2026
Date this summary was published	December 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	December 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mr Gareth Owens
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr Bilal Aziz
Name of local music hub	Buckinghamshire Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	XYZ Music Academy

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.

Our school follows XYZ Music Academy's curriculum for music. This offers both breadth and depth to our children who are able to experience a wide range of instruments and genres. Built into the curriculum are opportunities for children to compose, rehearse and perform music, be that individually, as part of a group or as a whole class ensemble.

Music is taught for two hours every fortnight to each class. This is to allow children a greater length of time to truly engage with music and develop as musicians. During their lessons, specialist music teachers provide high quality lessons.

For more information on our music curriculum, please refer to the curriculum information on our school website.

We believe that our partnership with XYZ Music Academy is one of our school's biggest strengths, allowing children for an unparalleled music education.

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.

We offer a wide range of music tuition outside of our curriculum. This is mostly provided by XYZ Music Academy alongside a group of peripatetic music specialists. Children are given the opportunity to learn:

- singing
- flute
- piano
- guitar
- ukulele
- drumming

In addition to this, in the 2024/25 academic year we are reintroducing singing assemblies once per week led by a singing specialist. This is intended to provide children with more opportunities to sing as a collective. From these, our intention is to reintroduce elements of singing to all assemblies.

XYZ Music Academy also host a weekly rock band extracurricular club for children, during which children in Years 5 and 6 use their existing musical knowledge and skills to form a band and create music as a collective. In addition to this, XYZ Music Academy also run a weekly after-school music club to give children more opportunities to compose, rehearse and perform. These sessions allow children to work independently or as part of a group to develop their musicianship as well as their playing ability.

We have a large inventory of musical instruments for children to use both in and out of lessons, including African drums, ukuleles, keyboards and tuned percussion instruments.

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.

Every week, children in Key Stage 2 attend a Gig assembly on Wednesday afternoons. Children sign up in advance to perform in front of the Key Stage, whether this is an instrument that they have learnt through Long Crendon School, XYZ Music Academy, one of our other peripatetic teachers or any other avenue. The intention of these

assemblies is not only to showcase the musical talent of our children, but also to provide the experience of performance. As such, there is no expectation for this assembly to showcase the “finished product” or polished performances. Parents may also be invited to gig assemblies, encouraging children to feel proud of their work.

XYZ Music Academy host a termly musical performance evening, during which every child in the school has the opportunity to perform as a member of their class ensemble. These performances are enjoyed by the children and showcase the high standard of music education offered at our school. These shows often include staff performances, showing children that Long Crendon School is The Place to Grow for all: the adults are also learning new skills.

All of these events are free of charge. We also attend the Aylesbury Pantomime each year in the Autumn term, which includes musical performances. This is open to all Key Stage 2 children and we ask families for contributions to the cost of the ticket and coaches.

In the future

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

To consider our future options for music, we must consider the seven features of high-quality music provision as detailed in the National Plan for Music Education:

- 1) timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3

We have assessed our approach to curriculum and found that two hours every two weeks allows for greater depth of learning than one hour every week and provides the same number of hours of music over time. At present, this is not subject to change. However, we will continue to monitor and review our approach, returning to one hour per week if this is seen as being more beneficial to our children’s learning.

- 2) access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice

At present, our children have access to a wider range of instruments than is common at most schools. That being said, we are always looking to expand the range of instruments that we offer.

When funding becomes available, we intend to introduce brass instruments. In addition, our current focus is primarily on percussion and voice, so the expansion of our strings and woodwind instrument provision would also be beneficial.

3) a school choir or vocal ensemble

This academic year, we intend to introduce a school choir to further promote singing across the school.

4) a school ensemble, band or group

Currently, we have our extra-curricular rock band and music club, both of which form performance ensembles. Moving forwards, we intend to expand our band offerings, increasing the available genres and the age groups catered for.

5) space for rehearsals and individual practice

At Long Crendon School, we are fortunate to have the expansive facilities that we do. As such, we have the Art and Music room and the Music tuition room, both of which provide a dedicated space for musical rehearsal. In addition to this, when not in use the nurture room, stage, hall, conservatory and library can all be utilised as additional rehearsal spaces. We are not currently planning to expand this provision as we consider it to be plentiful.

6) a termly school performance

This has been a standard offering at Long Crendon School for many years and it is our intention to continue this into the future.

7) opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

Our Key Stage 2 children enjoy live music performed by their peers at least once per week. To increase the variety of live performances that our children are able to enjoy, we intend to include additional staff performances in our assemblies, utilising the skills of our team to further promote a love of music.

Further to this, we intend to introduce external music events, during which children can perform with and enjoy the performances of other children.

Further information

If you are interested in finding out more about music, or providing additional musical opportunities for your child or family, please refer to the resources below:

- <https://xyzmusicacademy.com/> - Our musical partner. You can also book external private tuition through XYZ Music Academy directly, including 1:1 lessons, workshops, camps and online lessons. You can also book recording space at their studio.
- [The Department for Education's Music Guide for Children and Young People](#) – This sets out what you should expect from music education in school as well as

offering advice on how to access additional musical opportunities outside of school.

- [Buckinghamshire Music Education Hub](#) (BMEH) – Also known as the Buckinghamshire Music Trust (BMT), you can access music lessons and performances from across Buckinghamshire here.
- [Buckinghamshire Army Cadet Force, Inkerman Platoon, Aylesbury](#) – Formed by our headteacher Mr Owens, Buckinghamshire Army Cadet Force offers young people aged 12-18 the opportunity to learn the bugle, side drum and Bb flute and participate in Corps of Drums and Bugle Platoon music with cadets from across the country. Adults can also join to learn the same instruments.