



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024/25
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Alex Collins
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Kent Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Dynamics / Kent Music / Medway Music Association

Part A: Curriculum Music

At Saxon Way, we aim to give all pupils an excellent musical education by offering a sequenced curriculum and a wide range of activities, such as singing, playing, performing, listening, evaluating, analysing and composing. Pupils learn about a wide range of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres in line with the National Curriculum. Our goal is to provide a well-rounded curriculum and ensure the progressive development of musical concepts, knowledge and skills. We are dedicated to nurturing a curiosity for music and fostering an understanding and appreciation of all types of music, while also promoting unbiased respect for the role music plays in people's lives.

The music curriculum at Saxon Way ensures pupils sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate a wide variety of musical compositions. Music at Saxon Way is taught by our specialist music teacher, using our immersive curriculum. In addition, pupils take part in weekly singing assemblies, a range of concerts and performances and benefit from specialist peripatetic teaching. This equates to more than one hour of music a week, using our bespoke music scheme of work.

Our music curriculum, written by leading experts in primary music education, offers high-quality and engaging music lessons with careful progression built in, from Early Years to Year 6. The curriculum ensures planned and sequenced musical development and the reinforcement of prior musical knowledge through a well-structured progression plan within each year and from one year to the next.

The intention of our curriculum is to enable pupils to feel that they are musical, and to develop a life-long love of music. All pupils will develop the musical skills of singing, playing tuned and untuned instruments, improvising and composing music, and listening and responding to music. They will develop a deep and rich understanding of the history and cultural content of the music that they listen to and learn how music can be written down. Through music, our curriculum helps pupils develop transferable skills such as teamwork, leadership, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, and presentation and performance skills. These skills are vital to pupils' development as learners and have a wider application in their lives outside and beyond school.

Our scheme of work enables pupils to meet the end of key stage attainment targets outlined in the National Curriculum. The English National Curriculum states 'That all pupils: perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.' Our music curriculum introduces our pupils to music from around the world and across generations, teaching pupils to respect and appreciate the music of different traditions and communities. These are explored through the language of music via active listening, performing and composing activities, enabling pupils to develop an understanding of context and genre.

Our Medium-Term Plan and Progression Map also ensures that all interrelated dimensions of music are applied and implemented, enabling pupils to apply their skills and knowledge, musical



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terminology to dissect it and understand how it is made, played, written, appreciated, and analysed. This ensures that pupils develop their musical skills systematically, building their knowledge of music from one year to the next.

It is our aim to offer an outstanding music education for all pupils, predicated on breadth and excellence. We work closely with our local community, the Medway Music Association, who support us in providing in-school opportunities to demonstrate the importance of music. The Griffin Trust Director of Music provides regular CPD training opportunities to develop our staff. Through our stimulating physical environment, we aim to teach young people to discover their talents and passions and to take their places in society through breadth of provision and diversity of ambition.

Part B: Co-Curricular Music

At Saxon Way, we believe that music plays an integral role in helping our pupils to feel part of a community, therefore we provide opportunities for all to create, play, perform and enjoy music both in class and to an audience. We are committed to ensuring pupils understand the value and importance of music in the wider community and can use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of contexts. Through assemblies, Music Festivals and key stage performances, all pupils showcase their talent and their understanding of performing with the awareness of others.

Within the EYFS setting, music is an integral part of our learning journey. Rhyme and rhythm are utilised throughout the learning of phonics, handwriting and mathematics. Pupils learn a wide range of songs and rhymes and develop skills for performing together. Singing and music-making opportunities are used frequently to embed learning, develop musical awareness and demonstrate how music can be used to express feelings.

Our whole class instrumental programme begins in KS1 with pupils working in partnership with The Director of Rochester Cathedral Children's Choir and Medway Music Association with percussion and singing lessons. In year 3 pupils have the opportunity to play djembe drums weekly. In year 4, pupils also experience body percussion as well as learning the ukulele. Working closely with the MMA has also allowed us opportunities to partner with their singing specialists who offer CPD for our staff and enjoyable opportunities for our pupils. We provide Music Technology lessons to year 5 and year 6, as well as the opportunity for an after-school guitar club with our specialist music teacher. Medway Music Association have also provided opportunities for our pupils to attend music lessons and workshops during the school holidays.

Singing is a strength at Saxon Way, and our pupils have many opportunities to demonstrate this either through cross-trust and collegiate activities, enrichment activities, weekly singing assemblies, annual school shows, being part of choirs as well as their day-to-day lessons with their class teachers.

Part C: Musical Experiences

Performance is at the heart of musical teaching and learning at Saxon Way School and pupils participate in a range of performances. Music strongly leads our school's Proud Traditions and key celebration points during the year - from our Carol Services to our Founders' Day, The Griffin Schools Trust (GST) Big Sing and the Griffin Arts Festival (GAF). These special events and festivals help us promote Wide Horizons as we can celebrate a range of musical talents. We strive to create memorable celebration assemblies that all pupils can take part in such as Harvest and Easter. These opportunities provide annual experiences that allow us to celebrate our musical talents whilst coming together as a whole school.

Every year, as part of our Griffin Arts Festival we host a picnic and invite our parents and carers into school to celebrate all art forms including music. We provide entertainment in the way of



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performances showcasing our talent from EYFS to Year 6. Recently, we have teamed this event with our annual Make Music Day event as we want to encourage all pupils to be inspired by a musical stimulus or provide an opportunity for all to take part in a musical performance. By providing these free events we hope to encourage our families to take a keen interest in music as well as showcase our talent.

As well as our school Christmas Carol and Nativity celebrations, pupils also perform with some of our local trust schools in our annual KS1 and KS2 Medway Music Festivals at The Central Theatre, provided by the MMA. Pupils who are confident musicians are also encouraged to perform in solo performances as well as supported in entering the Annual GST Music Medal Competition. These opportunities are celebrated frequently and highlighted using our Social Media platforms as we share our achievements with our families. Being a part of the GST also allows us many opportunities for our pupils to perform publicly outside of our school community in venues such as Saint Giles in the Barbican and Canterbury Cathedral.

Proud Traditions play an important part in the life of Saxon Way and this is something that we continue to develop year on year in order to provide the best opportunities for all pupils. During our Summer Arts Festival this year, we had a range of performances including the piano, singing and from our Saxon Way band. This event is something that we are continuing to develop to roll out yearly to promote and celebrate our Saxon Way talent.

Year 6 Production and Leaver's assemblies provide opportunities for all to sing publicly to families and partnerships, whilst reflecting on prior learning and opportunities. We want all pupils to have the opportunity to experience the arts both inside and outside of school.

In The Future

The future for Music at Saxon Way is exciting and something we are continuing to enhance year on year. Being reflective, we would love to be able to offer more peripatetic lessons to all pupils to embed music and encourage them to learn instruments both inside and outside of school. This is something we will explore further to ensure that we can offer these opportunities to as many pupils as possible.

We will be continuing to develop our Summer Arts Festival to embed our Proud Traditions that as a family we enjoy coming together to celebrate our talents. Next year, we hope to extend the concert for parents to attend to continue to build the profile of music.

In the past, we have also shared our singing locally in community venues and residential care homes and this is something that we can continue to expand. By sharing our talents with the community, we can reach a new audience and give our music another sense of purpose.

With music, there are many opportunities to explore such as creating relationships with our local secondary schools. In the past, we have visited dress rehearsals and seen the amazing talent that is portrayed, and this is something that can continue to inspire our pupils. Partnering with these schools provides potential opportunities to create workshops and home in on talent, outside of Saxon Way, to help build our own knowledge to support pupil performances.

At Saxon Way we currently offer Trust and school choirs to our KS2 pupils however, in the future we could offer the same opportunity for our KS1 pupils. This is something that we hope to develop to ensure that a love of singing and music is developed in our youngest pupils.