

Music development plan summary: Redgate Primary Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Siubahn Little
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Claire Gouthwaite
Name of local music hub	Inspire Music Hub Nottinghamshire
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Music Therapy Works

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 Redgate, we have developed a pathway-based music curriculum that is flexible and responsive to the diverse needs of our children, including sensory, cognitive and physical differences.

Our curriculum draws on a range of established approaches designed for children with learning disabilities, including Sparkyard Reception Music Curriculum, Equals, and Sounds of Intent.

We recognise that music and singing are powerful tools for engagement and learning, and we use them intentionally to support the development of communication, social interaction, cognition and wider learning skills.

Through a structured topic cycle, children experience music in a variety of contexts, enabling them to consolidate and apply their knowledge and skills.

We maintain a strong partnership with Nottinghamshire Music Hub - Inspire Music, who provide specialist music teaching for both small groups and whole classes, as well as supporting us in delivering a rich range of musical experiences.

In the Early Years, and within our green and blue curriculum pathways, music is taught as part of the creativity area of learning, alongside planned opportunities for music-making, exploration, singing and performance. Children in the yellow and primary pathways who are at the early stages of musical literacy are given opportunities to work with music specialists to develop more advanced skills and understanding.

All children access at least one half-term of music teaching each year delivered by Inspire Music specialists. Where appropriate, sessions are linked to our topic cycle and follow a consistent structure, enabling children to explore key musical elements and interrelated concepts.

Lessons typically follow a similar format, including warming up the body and voice through song, revisiting prior learning, listening and responding to music, exploring musical ideas, and finishing with reflection and evaluation.

- **Listening and responding:** Children engage with and explore music that forms the focus of their learning, developing active participation in key musical concepts.
- **Composing:** Children practise, improvise and create their own music.
- **Performing:** Children take part in performances within their classes and in whole-school events.

Our curriculum also places a strong emphasis on the broader benefits of music, including:

- **Therapeutic and emotional development:** Using music to support well-being and emotional regulation.
- **Collaboration and social skills:** Encouraging teamwork and social interaction through group activities and performances.
- **Music appreciation:** Developing an understanding and enjoyment of music from a range of cultures, listening to diverse styles, and engaging with instruments or creating their own sounds.

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.

In addition to our core music curriculum and the Inspire whole-class ensemble teaching, we actively enhance children's musical experiences by welcoming visiting performers and engaging with external providers. These opportunities have included M&M Productions, Bamboozle music and theatre workshops.

Some children also benefit from music through one-to-one or small group music therapy sessions delivered by practitioners from Music Therapy Works. These sessions provide a therapeutic approach tailored to meet individual needs.

As part of our personal development curriculum, children are encouraged to explore their musical interests and talents during weekly "Play and Interests" sessions.

Through our Inspire provision, we are also able to offer one-to-one tuition for children who demonstrate particular interest or aptitude in music.

Additionally, we plan and deliver our own 'Bamboozle-style' immersive events each half term. These events are often linked to the cultural calendar or a narrative theme and provide engaging opportunities for children to experience a broad range of musical styles and genres as part of our enrichment offer.

We have a sensory garden featuring musical equipment and natural, sound-making 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.

In addition to timetabled music lessons, children are provided with a wide range of additional musical experiences. Wherever possible, they have opportunities to experience live musical theatre. Children also take part in school-based performances, including Christmas productions and 'Bamboozle-style' immersive events.

We hold a weekly singing assembly where children learn songs from the Out of the Ark programme, linked to our termly topic cycle. These songs are practised during class time before coming together as a whole school to perform them.

In the future

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

- Maintain regular communication with the Nottinghamshire Music Hub (Inspire) to access workshops and wider musical opportunities.
- Expand and diversify performance opportunities for children, both within school and externally, including events for parents to attend.
- Review and explore alternative music curricula suited to SEND pupils to ensure provision remains appropriate and effective.
- Investigate opportunities to collaborate with other special schools in delivering shared music provision.