

Music development plan summary: Lady Bankes Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miss B Mackerness Mrs K Hewett
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music	Mrs K Needs Mrs J Fox
Name of local music hub	Hillingdon Music Service, a part of the London West Music Hub

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 families understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

Part A: Curriculum music

This section 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 Lady Bankes Primary School we believe that Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. Lessons are taught on a weekly basis for one hour. Music is taught both as a discrete subject and across the curriculum. The whole school use the model music curriculum provided by Charanga, in partnership with the Hillingdon Music Service.

Children learn to listen to, perform, review and evaluate Music across a wide range of genres and traditions. There is progression in Music skills that helps children begin to understand pitch, tempo, structure and musical notation. We secure any opportunity we find for children to enjoy live performances to enhance our curriculum.

In Nursery and Reception children are encouraged to participate in a variety of musical experiences which aim to build the confidence, creative and social skills of all children. Through

singing songs and playing instruments, children learn about working collaboratively, whilst developing their listening and rhyming skills.

In Key stage 1, weekly singing assemblies are based on multi-cultural celebrations or events and music is chosen to enhance these experiences. Through listening to a range of music children develop descriptive language skills and are encouraged to express about how music can represent different feelings, emotions and narratives. Integral to our teaching is to begin to use technical vocabulary such as pulse, rhythm, dynamics, melody and pitch and children are encouraged to discuss music using this terminology. Children at this stage are beginning to play percussion instruments with more control and purpose and are beginning to reflect on their own and their peer's performances.

The key skills learnt in EYFS and Key Stage 1 are developed as the children move up through Key Stage 2 through listening to music, playing instruments, singing, performing, composing and improvising. Children as a whole class apply their developing knowledge to learn a specific instrument. Year 3 are currently learning to play the Steel Pans, Year 4 the glockenspiel, Year 5 the recorder and Year 6 the ukulele.

Lady Bankes Primary School believe these instrumental opportunities are important to inspire and build confidence in children's music making. For children with disabilities/SEND, instruments and lessons are adapted to be inclusive of all needs.

Our local community is an integral part of our learning journey where we encourage children to perform at various annual events in Hillingdon and further afield. Carols at Ruislip Manor Library; Lighting the tree at Eastcote House; Young Voices at Wembley and the O2 arena; Hillingdon Music Hub ensembles; Hillingdon Sings and Inclusive choir concerts are examples of some of the wide range of experiences offered to all children outside of the school environment.

A highlight of the school year is Christmas where the whole school celebrates, using age appropriate material through singing, instrumental playing and dance! It underpins the values of our school and gives every child a chance to fulfil their Ambition, Togetherness, Opportunity, Respect, Curiosity and much Happiness!

Part B: Co-curricular music

This section 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.

At Lady Bankes Primary School we work in partnership with Hillingdon Music Service (a part of London West Music Hub) to offer the opportunity of our children to learn to play an instrument. These lessons are taught by peripatetic teachers who come into school once a

week. Lessons are taught on an individual basis. This year we have a number of children at school who are having keyboard and guitar lessons.

<https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/startmusic>

<https://www.ladybankes.school/page/?title=Music+Lessons&pid=79>

The above links set out the charges for music lessons. Lessons cost £108.95 per term (equal to £10.89 per lesson over a year), plus £31.00 per term to hire an instrument (hire not available keyboard or percussion). This is paid directly to Hillingdon Music Service. Pupils who are part of our 'Count Me In' initiative can learn an instrument for a concessionary price of £23.35 a term. Children are able to loan instruments from Hillingdon Music Service and may be invited to take part in some of the ensembles that they organise which take place on Saturdays at the Global Academy in Hayes.

Lady Bankes Primary School has a popular choir which takes place after school weekly. The choir is open to any children from Year 4 upwards from the autumn term. The choir initially works towards taking part in 'Young Voices' a concert involving many schools and in the region of 4000 other children. We chose to sing at the Young Voices concert that takes place at Wembley Arena. Children who are in Year 3 are welcome to join from the summer term. There is a nominal charge of £10 for choir each term for the purchase of resources and music. The choir also participates in events organised by Hillingdon Music Service.

Part C: Musical experiences

This section 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.

At Lady Bankes we regularly provide enrichment experiences for the children to enhance our curriculum offer.

Weekly singing assemblies take place in both Key Stage One and Key Stage Two. These assemblies focus on the enjoyment and techniques of singing whilst learning songs, including those relating to the school's values. In EYFS singing takes place daily to enrich the children's learning including the singing of nursery rhymes and traditional songs.

Each class from Year 2 upwards performs a class assembly once during the year and singing forms an integral part of these events.

Pupils in Year 6 perform a musical show at the end of their last term at school. This performance is for both the rest of the school as well as for their family and friends as a celebration of the end of primary school.

Year 6 also attend a West End theatre production in the autumn term. This year they will be going to watch The Lion King. There will be a cost for children's tickets of £35.

Year 3 have an African drumming workshop during the spring term to enhance their learning about 'Why is the Kingdom of Benin so significant?' This workshop is from a theatre company and gives the children an opportunity to experience instruments played by professionals.

The children from Reception to Year 6 have the opportunity to watch a traditional pantomime at the end of the autumn term. This is a highly entertaining experience that many of our children have never had and singing and audience participation is an integral part of the performance.

In the future

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

At Lady Bankes, we are always looking for ways to improve our curriculum to provide the best education for our pupils.

Listed below are a few areas we wish to provide, in the future:

- A chance for termly performances of class-based instruments
- Continue to provide a systematic and progressive sequence of lessons to ensure pupil groups achieve well across academic learning and wider personal development.
- Enhance and develop the teaching and learning of music in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Further information

Useful links:

The power of music to change lives: a national plan for music education:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-power-of-music-to-change-lives-a-national-plan-for-music-education>

Music education: information for parents and young people:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people>

Hillingdon Music Service: <https://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/1221/Hillingdon-Music-Service>