



Music Development Plan

2024-2025

Penbridge Junior School

Part of the Thinking School's Academy Trust

Date of determination September 2024

Review Date September 2025

Music development plan summary: Penbridge Junior School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2023-2024
Date this summary was published	
Date this summary will be reviewed	
Name of the school music lead	Claire Young
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Portsmouth Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Hampshire Music Service

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.

Music is highly valued at Penbridge. It can have an amazing impact on a child's well-being. It builds a sense of community and gives children a sense of belonging and purpose. Music boosts self-discipline and self-esteem and in turn improves standards across all other curriculum subjects. This was recognised in our recently awarded Gold Artsmark which highlighted our commitment to the arts in school.

Curriculum music

At Penbridge Junior School we are fortunate to have a dedicated music room for lessons, rehearsals and clubs. Music lessons take place each week with weekly singing assemblies. These are led by a specialist music teacher. Over the year pupils receive one hour of music a week, as outlined in the National Plan for Music Education. Children follow a theme for a half term which includes all aspects of listening and appraising, composing, rehearsing and performing. Much of this is based on the Hampshire Music Curriculum written for teachers by music specialists. We use a comprehensive

skills breakdown provided by Portsmouth Music Hub to ensure that our curriculum provides full coverage as required. Here is a link to our Music Curriculum map.



Music Curriculum
map Juniors 2023-24.

Children have music lessons while teachers take their PPA. The children's outcomes in music are assessed by the music teacher at the end of each unit. This is then used to adapt the unit as necessary and any future planning.

The music room is well-resourced with a wide range of tuned and untuned instruments which are used regularly during lessons. These include keyboards, glockenspiels and xylophones. We currently 'host' the Music Hub's sets of African drums and Cajon drums along with the Indonesian Gamelan. Children have access to laptops and iPads to use in music lessons. The music manager has a yearly budget to maintain our instruments and music resources. The school subscribes to 'Sing Up' which provides a huge range of quality songs from all genres along with backing tracks and accompaniments.

Our music curriculum is accessible to all children. Disabled pupils and pupils with SEND are sometimes supported by Classroom Assistants in order to help them to access all areas of the music curriculum.

In Year 4 the children learn to play the recorder. This includes beginning to read music as well as play some simple tunes.

The school has strong links with Portsmouth Music Hub and we take part in many of the free activities they offer during the year, including live concerts and opportunities for choir to perform at different venues. Parents are invited to take part in these whenever possible. The hub also provides music training for teachers and opportunities for music leaders to meet together to share good practice.

Extra curricular music

Penbridge Junior School has a strong choir made up of children from all year groups. This weekly club is free and runs after school. They learn new songs and rehearse for performances with other schools organised by the local hub. Each year they help to lead the Christingle Service at St Mary's church. They have also sung at the Portsmouth Mayor-Making service.

School also uses the services of Rock Steady who provide instrumental tuition to pupils focused on performing as part of a band. Rock Steady provides a fun and inclusive music education where children can progress through a range of different skills as well as take part in live concerts to parents three times a year. We are also enrolled in their

Match-funding scheme to ensure that disadvantaged pupils who would benefit from taking part are not impeded by cost.

Musical events

This year our choir (with another school) have performed a Christmas musical called 'No-one Wraps Like an Elf' at a local church. This was organised by Portsmouth Music hub and involved working with another local school. Parents were able to purchase tickets to watch the performance.

They also take part each year in 'The News' Christingle Service at St Mary's Church. Parents are invited to join in the free family service too.

Choir then learnt a musical 'The Great Fire of London' which they performed to both their parents and the Year 2 children at Penbridge Infant School who had been studying it as part of a history topic.

A group of children from Year 5 were taken to a live concert at the Portsmouth Guildhall to widen their experience of 'live' music. This was led by Music in the Round and was entitled Close Up: Music for Curious Minds. This took the children on a tour through the world of chamber music, specially created for young audiences, combining well known classical favourites with new works.

Choir are currently rehearsing for a performance, 'Songscape'. This involves several schools in Portsmouth and culminates with a performance at the New Theatre Royal for parents to watch.

In school, each year group takes responsibility for a musical event during the year.

Year 3 invite parents in at Christmas to sing and share songs.

Year 4 lead the Easter celebration at the local church. They tell the Easter story through songs, narration and dance. The whole school are involved in the service and Year 4 parents are invited to attend.

Year 5 are responsible for the Christmas production. The children audition for parts with some electing to help as stage hands if they don't want to perform. This is performed to the rest of the school and parents. All children are encouraged to join in with this.

At the end of Year 6 the children perform a musical play. As before, they audition for parts with scope for everyone to take part in whichever aspect they choose. This is performed to the school and to parents.

In the future

In the future we would like to increase the number of experiences we can offer to our pupils in terms of watching 'live' musical performances. The barriers to this are costings and ensuring that each child has access to this.

This coming year we will make more use of technology in music lessons for composition and this will be embedded in the planning for these units. This was a highlight in the Music Action plan this year. Once children have become familiar with the apps and programmes the music lead will be able to assess how effective these have been.

In order to increase the children's instrumental tuition we will apply to our local hub who offer one term of free instrumental teaching for a year group. Instruments are lent to the school for this and children are encouraged to continue learning after this time by joining a local ensemble run by the hub.

Further information (optional)

Link to Portsmouth Music Hub [Portsmouth Music Hub](#)

The hub have an excellent bank of songs on their website many of which we use in school. Children are able to access these from home. [Song Source Home — Portsmouth Music Hub](#)

Link to Rock Steady [Rocksteady Music School – Fun and inclusive in-school rock and pop band lessons for primary school children | Rocksteady Music School](#)

[Link to trustwide music development plan?](#)