

Music Development Plan Summary

Rushden Primary Academy



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 – 2027
Date this summary was published	2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	2027
Name of the academy music lead	Miss Carrie Turner
Name of academy leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Miss Lindsay Edwards (Principal)
Name of local music hub	NMPAT
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady ISM Music Academy

This is a summary of how our academy delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, wider music provision/opportunities 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 academy offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

Part A: Curriculum Music

This is the information 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 academy already publishes our curriculum for music for each year group online. This can be found here:

<https://www.rushdenprimaryacademy.org/page/?title=Music&pid=111>

The Music curriculum and the time we spend on Music is set out as follows:

- In Key Stage 1 we ensure there is a weekly thirty minute music lesson.
- In Key Stage 2 we ensure there is a weekly forty-five minute music lesson in each term. Key Stage 2 also have a yearly Ukulele Unit which the children participate in.
- In addition, the school has its own school song which the children sing weekly in assemblies.

Other Music curriculum information at this academy:

- Our current provision for curriculum design, sequencing and progression is based on a scheme of work that maps the key skills, knowledge and concepts that are covered over time. We currently use Charanga. Information on this can be found here: <https://charanga.com/site/musical-school/>
- At the current stage, the digital skills we offer children are incorporated within computing units (Years 2 and 4) across the school. We will be considering improving the teaching of digital music skills in the next academy improvement plan.
- There are a wide range of opportunities that pupils have to learn to sing or play an instrument during lesson time at this academy. These include:
 - ❖ Years 3 – 6 Ukulele Units – Children will be able to learn the key skills to play a Ukulele by the time they leave school.
 - ❖ Children use their voices and play Glockenspiels alongside their Charanga music units.
- Children will sing in assemblies twice per week.
 - ❖ Peripatetic music lessons are covered in lesson time.

There are three key music related partnerships Rushden Primary Academy has which support curriculum music, and this starts with our relationship with the local music hub. We are now in our fourth year of partnership with NMPAT developing both performance and music in our academy. Additionally, we have been working with Rocksteady who form rock bands with the children. The children get the opportunity to play different instruments and perform together as an ensemble. They then perform three times per year to the rest of the school. Our other music partnership is with ISM music academy. They deliver one to one/two lessons which help the children develop their instrumental ability. They then deliver a termly performance to the children's parents.

Part B: Wider Music Opportunities

This is about the opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and bands, and how pupils at our academy can make progress in Music beyond the core curriculum.

Rushden Primary Academy offers a wide range of music tuition outside of what is taught in lesson time (as described above) and this includes:

- Sing and Sign club – The children get the opportunity to sing and learn sign language simultaneously.
- Choir – New for the 2026 – 2027 academic year.

NMPAT (Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust) offer tuition to children both vocally and instrumentally should children want to take lessons outside of school. They also hold yearly auditions for their youth orchestra and offer workshops across the county over the course of the year. You can find more information about the provision NMPAT offer at: <https://nmpat.co.uk/>

Saturday music centres that offer a range of opportunities for our children include:

- ❖ Bedford Music Hub <https://bedfordmusichub.org.uk/get-involved/saturday-morning-music-centre/>
- ❖ Bedford Music Co-operative <https://www.bedsmusic.coop/music-centre-on-saturday-morning>
- ❖ NMPAT Wellingborough Centre: <https://nmpat.co.uk/about/centres/nmpat-wellingborough-centre/>
- ❖ NMPAT Kettering Centre: <https://nmpat.co.uk/about/centres/nmpat-kettering-centre/>
- ❖ NMPAT Corby Centre: <https://nmpat.co.uk/about/centres/nmpat-corby-centre/>
- ❖ There are other music centres that NMPAT run which you can access here: <https://nmpat.co.uk/about/centres/>
- ❖ Occasionally, there are musical workshops and activities run by Made with Many. You can find out about all the different events and programmes that are running by following the link: <https://madewithmany.org/>

Part C: Musical Experiences

This section sets out all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

We have many musical experiences for the children to listen to over the course of the year. It is important to us that children get to experience a wide variety of genres and understand the cultural history behind the music.

- First and foremost, the children are taught using the Charanga scheme of work. This gives them the opportunity to experience music from a wide range of sources. This includes music from the classical period such as Mozart to more contemporary form such as Hip-Hop.
- Every Monday and Friday, the children get the experience of singing our school song in their morning assemblies. This encourages the children to have pride in their school and build their confidence towards aiming high in their achievements.
- All children experience our termly Rocksteady concerts. This is where the children taking part in our Rocksteady programme get to perform what they have been learning to the rest of the school.

- ISM also arrange concerts which allow the children to perform in front of their parents and celebrate the progress they are making.
- The children have also taken part in our school music video, and they have experienced a little more about the production/marketing side of the industry.
- During Career Week, children gained insight into creating music for film.
- Another fun experience that the children get to observe is with musical theatre. M&M productions come to the school for a yearly production where the children get to see the importance of music in telling a story.

In the future

At our academy we have an ambition to enrich, broaden and continue to develop the opportunities and curriculum provision for Music. In this section we set out what this could be and what we hope to achieve.

At RPA we will endeavour to improve the standard of provision regarding instrumental tuition. The children have been working hard by learning the Ukulele and this tuition will be continuing. On top of this, it is the aim of the school to work alongside NMPAT to provide instrumental lessons to some of the more traditional musical instruments such as trumpets, clarinets, or violins.

Another target for the school is to improve the visibility and raise awareness of the importance of music within the school. We will be working hard to get parents more involved in the children's productions and showcase some of our musical talent online.

Further Information

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

The local [music hub](#) should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information. Also see: <https://nmpat.co.uk/>

To see more information about graded music accreditation, see:

<https://www.abrsm.org/en-gb>

<https://www.trinitycollege.com/local-trinity/UK/music>