



Walter Infant School and Nursery

Music Curriculum

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	September 2024 – July 2025
Date this summary was published	24.05.2024
Date this summary will be reviewed-	June 2025
Name of the school music lead	Jasmine Veale and Callum Dale
Name of local music hub	The Wokingham Area Schools Music Association

This is a summary of how our school delivers our music curriculum to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experiences – and what changes we are planning in the future. 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: Our Music Curriculum at Walter Infant School and Nursery

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.

During their time at Walter Infant School and Nursery, the children take part in many music lessons. In these lessons, they are able to listen and talk about different pieces of music, create their own music by singing or playing instruments and perform music. As a school, we have created our own Music curriculum that is easily adapted to the needs of all of our children. In KS1, we have a cross-curricular music curriculum that ties in with topics taught in other subjects. Our cross-curricular music lessons expose our children to a wide range of music, including music from around the world, instrumental music and music with voice. Each week, our children also have a singing assembly along with other song sung in other assemblies throughout the week.

Foundation 1

During their time in Foundation 1, the children have access to music through play and also have the opportunity to learn different songs and rhymes. There is a stage area which allows for singing, acting and performing as part of their continuous provision. They also learn songs and rhymes through their Phase 1 phonics work.

Foundation 2

During their time in Foundation 2, the children have access to a wide range of musical opportunities. During this time, we want them to explore and engage in music making and begin to perform as solo or group performances. We continue to keep their stage area for continuous provision with instruments and props to encourage singing, acting and performance. The children have the opportunity to learn a new song for each topic or book they are studying and have specific lessons linked to singing and performing, playing instruments and listening to different types of music.

Giving the children more guided and a wider range of music lessons in F2 will allow them to develop their musical skills. From their second term at school, children also participate in our school singing assemblies.



Year 1

During their time in Year 1, the children have access to at least one topic specific music activity each term. We use music to aid our teaching every day (clapping patterns, quiet music in the background of lessons to help focus work). The children also participate in a 25-minute singing assembly each week where they are able to learn and practice new songs. These sessions develop the children's singing, performing, listening and instrumental playing skills. We focus particularly on developing their singing skills when practicing for our Christmas Nativity. During this time, the children will participate in weekly music lessons where they will learn and master each new song for their Nativity. They then have the opportunity to perform this to an audience. The children also have an opportunity to participate in the Addington Proms. All children from Year 1 will take part in our instrumental lessons (e.g. African Drumming).

Having a more guided approach and focusing on specific musical skills during the year will help develop their musical skills in Year 1 and progression can be seen through the increased accuracy in each of these skills.

Year 2

During their time in Year 2, the children have access to at least one topic specific music activity each term – two singing, two instrumental and two listening. We use music to aid our teaching every day (clapping patterns, quiet music in the background of lessons to help focus work). The children also participate in a 25-minute singing assembly each week where they are able to learn and practice new songs. We also have at least one music lesson each term. These lessons develop the children's singing, performing, listening and instrumental playing skills. We especially focus on developing their singing skills when practicing for our Christmas Concert. The children also have an opportunity to participate in the Addington Proms. This is another opportunity for those who did not get the chance to participate in Year 1 to be able to participate.

The lessons taught in Year 2 are a development of those in Year 1 as more focused questioning and lessons that have an emphasis on specific musical techniques are used. Having this more focused approach throughout the year will help them develop their musical skills in Year 2 and progression can be seen through the increased accuracy of these skills.

Part B: Music in the wider curriculum

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.

At Walter Infant School and Nursery, there is plenty of opportunity for our children to create music outside of music lessons. Each week we have a singing assembly and there are plenty of opportunities for children to get involved in music during their choosing time. We have a wide range of instruments in our school which the children love learning about and playing. There is also opportunity for children to be involved with iRock on a Friday afternoon which is an optional club for children to join. During this club, children will learn certain pieces of music that they will then perform to the rest of the school and parents. The children have the chance to play a range of band instruments (drums, guitars and pianos) and are also able to show off their amazing singing skills. Pupil Premium children also have the opportunity to join iRock as this is



something we are happy to fund as part of their Pupil Premium fund. In Year 2, our children are also able to involve themselves in Addington Proms. During the Summer term, a small choir is created for Year 2 pupils to join and learn songs. There is an amazing concert at Addington School which they have the opportunity to perform in! At Walter Infant School, we have a range of different instruments that are used during our music lessons. These include: drums, boom whackers, a range of other tuned and untuned percussion instruments, a weighted keyed keyboard in our school hall and talented staff who also play a range of instruments outside of school! We also include music in many of our other lessons. There are a range of songs we teach the children in Maths and Science and there are even songs and chants the children learn during their English lessons! Music is a fully integrated part of our school and it is something that, as a school, we are very proud of. Children are constantly exposed to a range of different music both inside and outside of lessons.

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.

At Walter Infant School and Nursery, our children have many opportunities for musical experiences. We have many assemblies throughout the year which encourage singing and performing in front of other people. We have had dance assemblies where the children have learnt dances to different music to perform to the rest of the school along with many other music-based assemblies. We always look for opportunities to include songs in our assemblies and have learnt a range of different songs to sing. During our mental health week, one of our activities was to learn a song to sing in our celebration assembly on Friday. We have then continued to sing this song in other assemblies. Each year group has a performance at a point in the year. Foundation Stage learn and perform songs for a Christmas concert, Year 1 learn and perform songs for their class assemblies and Nativities and Year 2 have a Christmas Extravaganza and an end of year musical play which includes learning many songs which they are able to perform (there are even opportunities for solo performances during this!). We invite all of our families to attend our performances. In Year 2, some children are also given the opportunity to participate in Addington Proms which takes place at Addington School. During this event, the children are able to listen to and perform a range of different songs. At the end of Year 2 the children perform poignant songs from their school days at Walter for their parents and carers.

In the future

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

At Walter Infant School and Nursery, we believe we already expose our children to a wide range of music, however, there is always opportunity for more music at school! We hope that in the future we will be able to host our own 'Proms in the Playground' where each class learns a song or piece of music to perform to both the rest of the children and also their parents. We would also love a topical song to be sung or learnt for each topic in KS1 to continue their wide exposure to music. It would also be so lovely for our children to experience live performances from professional musicians in our school.