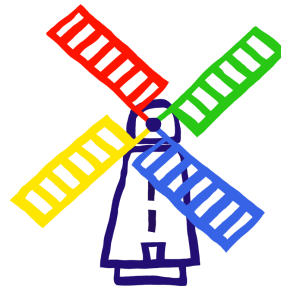


# Music Development Plan

Unity  
Trust  
Courage  
Curiosity  
Respect  
Kindness



A community for learning. Raising expectations. Fulfilling high standards.

Academic Year This Summary Covers: **2023/24**

Date Published: **27th September 2024**

Date of Review: **27th September 2025**

Music Lead: **Mrs Emily Archer-Doran**

SLT Lead: **Mrs Vicki Marshall**

Local Music Hub: **Bucks Music Trust**

Other Music Organisations in Place: **Rise Up Music, RockSteady, Lizzy Kirton**



# Widmer End Community Combined School & Pre-School

## Music Development Plan

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This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music; tuition, choirs and ensemble 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.

### **Curriculum music**

Children at Widmer End receive dedicated time for music lessons each week, equating to at least 45 minutes per week per class. We follow the statutory music programmes of study as outlined by the National Curriculum [here](#) using a music scheme called 'Charanga' to teach music from EYFS all the way to Year 6. For more information about our scheme, including information about progression of skills and how we plan music to support pupils with special educational needs (SEND), please visit the music page of our website, [here](#). (Please note, we intend to change our scheme to 'Get Set 4 Music' from September 2024).

Children have access to a range of tuned and untuned instruments in school and have opportunities to learn how to play these as they progress through school as part of our music scheme.

When children reach Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6, they learn to play an instrument for an entire term in their allocated music lesson time. In Year 2, children learn to play African drums; in Year 4, they learn the ukelele; and in Year 6, they have violin lessons (next year, this will be brass). Lessons are provided by the Bucks Music Trust, a local music hub, by specialist music teachers.

### **Music tuition, choirs and ensembles**

Children have access to specialist teachers from Rise Up Music who provide 1:1 and group lessons, offering singing, ukelele, drums, keyboard and guitar lessons weekly. In addition, Lizzy Kirton teaches piano lessons weekly. Children perform in special events throughout the year eg at the May fete.

We also have several bands, run by RockSteady, who meet weekly and perform to the parents three times a year and the full school at the end of the year in a concert.

We have a popular weekly choir which runs once a week for an hour after school and is made up of 30 children ranging from Year 2 to Year 6. Children perform in a range of events throughout the yearly calendar including singing carols at the local shopping centre or at the Echoes event at the Royal Albert Hall in March led by the Bucks Music Trust.



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Pupils can join any of these additional clubs or sessions by applying at the school office - fees vary depending on the tuition and company delivering this; however, we do subsidise or cover tuition for parents and carers in particular circumstances (for example we have contributed towards tuition for pupil premium recipients).

Pupils currently work in the hall or the library for their lessons with their music teacher where they can practise individually or in groups depending on the music being taught.

### **Musical experiences**

We hold weekly singing assemblies for Reception to Year 6 children. Children sing songs linked to our school values from Out of the Ark songs to current artists in the charts.

Children perform music in their class assemblies once a year to the rest of the school and their parents. This includes singing and playing instruments if they have learnt them.

Children have the opportunity to watch a live stage show from M&M productions every year - this year it was 'The Jungle Book'. Children enjoy being the audience for these singing and acting performances. Children from Pre-School to Year 6 watch this performance.

Children from Year 4-6 have the opportunity each year to walk to the local secondary school, Sir William Ramsay, to watch their Christmas concert. This includes watching performances from singers, dancers and instrumentalists who are all pupils at the school.

Children in Year 6 perform a summer show in July, where they act and perform songs in a show of about 1.5 hours in length. This year's show was 'The Amazing Adventures of Superstan' published by Musicline. All children attending the school watch this performance as well as parents and families.

Every Christmas, children at Widmer End perform in a special concert for the other children and their families. Each stage of the school performs their own concert: EYFS, KS1 and KS2 each perform their own event on the stage in the main hall. Younger children perform a nativity style play and KS2 perform a 'Carols by Candlelight' cantata for children and families.

Performances such as Christmas and Year 6 productions are chargeable but the amount per ticket is only calculated to cover the cost of licensing and administrative costs. As mentioned earlier, we do subsidise or cover the cost of tickets for parents and carers in particular circumstances (for example we have contributed towards tuition for pupil premium recipients).



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Our amazing school choir has performed in different events over the year. These include: performing to children and staff at school in termly assemblies; performing to the public at the local shopping parade at Christmas; performing at PTA events such as the Christmas and Summer fairs; and performing at the Royal Albert Hall in March with hundreds of other schools in Buckinghamshire in an event run by Bucks Music Trust.

### **In the future**

We plan to change our music scheme from September 2024 from 'Charanga' to 'Get Set 4 Music'.

We plan to offer 1:1 acoustic piano lessons through Rise Up music, our current provider for other instruments, as Lizzy Kirton can no longer offer her services for 24-25.

By the start of the 2024-25 academic year, we expect to have our new Music room finished and ready to be used for individual children, groups and band tuition every week. This room will be designed to store all of our music instruments and resources, including our piano and keyboard, and be used for music lessons. This room is purpose built with its own special acoustic ceiling installed.

Choir are expanding their performance dates with plans for performing down in the Eden Centre in High Wycombe in front of shoppers from a wider community; as well as performing songs in a local residential care home.

We also plan to invite a wider range of musicians into our school to showcase their talents and inspire children to pursue learning an instrument.

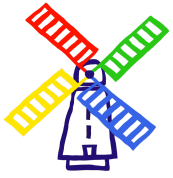
We are revising our timetables to ensure we teach an hour of music a week across the school.

### **Further Information**

Our local music hub is the Bucks Music Trust. As well as offering school packages, they can be contacted to arrange music lessons for children outside of school hours. Their website can be found [here](#).

The Chiltern Music Academy also provides similar services. Their website can be accessed through this link: [CMA website](#).

Our 1:1 lessons are provided by Rise Up Music. More information is on their website [here](#).



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## Music Development Plan

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More information about Rocksteady, who offer band practice for children at our school, can be found on their website [here](#).

The Department for Education has published a guide for parents and young people on how they can get involved in music in and out of school. Please find the link for this [here](#).