Music development plan summary: Longwick CE Community Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs L Barton
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Buckinghamshire Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

Music Development Plan 2026–2027

At Longwick CE Combined School, we believe that every child has the potential to develop as a musician, regardless of their starting point, background or individual needs. Rooted in our Christian vision, *'From small beginnings, great things grow'* (Matthew 13:31–32), our music curriculum aims to nurture children's musical abilities, curiosity and creativity, providing opportunities for every pupil to discover, develop and celebrate their talents.

Through a rich, inclusive and progressive music curriculum, in our school, children are encouraged to explore, perform, compose and appreciate music from a wide range of traditions, cultures and genres. We believe that music provides opportunities for self-expression, collaboration and reflection, helping pupils to develop confidence, resilience, respect and a sense of belonging.

We aim to foster a lifelong appreciation of music by providing meaningful musical experiences both within and beyond the classroom. Through these opportunities, children develop the knowledge, skills and confidence to express themselves, celebrate the achievements of others and recognise their own potential.

In keeping with our school motto, **'**Grow. Flourish. Fly.', we aspire for every child to grow in musical understanding, flourish through creativity and shared experiences and fly with the confidence to embrace new opportunities and a lasting enjoyment of music.

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Part A: Curriculum music

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.

The music curriculum at Longwick aims to nurture confident, expressive musicians by inspiring all *Longwick Learners* to develop the skills needed to perform and share music with others. It is grounded in the belief that music should be enjoyable, inclusive, and accessible, and that every child has innate musical potential. Because music is woven into daily life across cultures and communities, the curriculum seeks to help pupils understand and appreciate its universal significance.

Curriculum foundations

- The curriculum is shaped by the Model Music Curriculum and reflects its progression, breadth, and ambition.
- All lessons are designed to be fully inclusive, with adaptations available to ensure that pupils with SEND can participate meaningfully and experience success.
- In both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, music is taught for 30 minutes per week (with Buckinghamshire Music Trust class lessons delivered in 45-minute sessions)
- In both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, singing practice is taught for 20 minutes per week.

Classroom music and wider musicianship

Class teachers deliver weekly lessons using Charanga, supporting pupils to:

- Sing confidently, both individually and as part of an ensemble
- Develop their aural awareness and vocal technique
- Respond physically and expressively to music
- Create and perform compositions using a variety of tuned and untuned instruments
- Explore the interrelated dimensions of music: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, structure, and age-appropriate notation

Instrumental learning in Key Stage 2

Should they wish, pupils in Key Stage 2 are able to learn a musical instrument for half a term. These sessions are delivered by a specialist from the Buckinghamshire Music Trust who teaches instrumental technique, ensemble skills, and the foundations of reading musical notation. Instruments offered include drums, ukuleles, and recorders.

These experiences ensure that pupils build a broad, secure understanding of musical concepts while developing creativity, confidence, and enjoyment.

Part B: Co-curricular music

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.

Opportunities through XYZ Music Academy

The school hosts the XYZ Music Academy, led by a former Longwick pupil. The team offer weekly instrumental lessons to pupils during the school day. Tuition is available in:

- Drums
- Guitar
- Woodwind
- Piano

Lessons are delivered by experienced tutors and are open to pupils of all abilities. This provision enables children to develop technical skills, performance confidence, and musical independence.

Choir and vocal opportunities

The Longwick Choir is a thriving and popular extra-curricular group for pupils in Years 2–6. The choir meets weekly and provides opportunities for pupils to:

- Sing as part of an ensemble
- Develop vocal technique and musical expression
- Perform at school, local, and regional events

Recorder playing opportunities

Tuition by the class teacher in Year 2 offers pupils the chance to develop their instrumental skills in a small, supportive group. Children learn to read simple notation, play melodies together and build confidence through informal performances. This provides an accessible first step into ensemble playing.

Opportunities through the Buckinghamshire Music Trust

Our local music hub, the Buckinghamshire Music Trust (BMT), offers a wide range of additional musical pathways for Longwick pupils. Provision includes:

- Ensembles, orchestras, bands, and choirs for ages 4–18
- Progressive pathways from beginner to advanced level
- Theory and aural training
- Individual, paired, and group instrumental tuition outside school hours

These centres are open to all young musicians, regardless of whether they receive lessons from BMT tutors in school.

Opportunities through Rock Steady Music School

Rocksteady's inclusive approach gives children a highly engaging, band-based route into learning instruments. Their model focuses on practical music-making from the very first session, allowing pupils to experience the excitement of performing as part of a real rock band while developing instrumental skills in a supportive, inclusive environment. This offers creativity, develops resilience and discipline, and provides clear progression pathways as they progress from primary to secondary school.

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.

Longwick C of E School is committed to providing pupils with a rich and varied programme of musical experiences that deepen their enjoyment of music, broaden their cultural understanding, and build confidence in performing. These experiences take place both within the school day and through wider community and regional opportunities.

Pupils encounter a wide range of musical activities throughout the year, including:

- **Weekly whole-school** singing practice- shared repertoire and collective performance skills build musical confidence and experience the joy of singing through a wide range of hymns and school songs from other cultures and genres
- **KS1 and KS2 class assemblies to parents** which often include singing, instrumental work, or musical theatre elements
- **Church celebrations** at Christmas, Easter, and Harvest, where pupils perform hymns, songs, and readings
- **Visiting performances** from organisations such as the Buckinghamshire Music Trust (BMT), exposing pupils to live music and professional musicians
- **Rocksteady half term performances to parents** providing half termly opportunities in front of parents and friends to showcase their musical identity and stage presence and see themselves as musicians.

- **Annual school pantomimes**, offering opportunities for singing and ensemble participation
- **Pupil performances in assembly**, enabling children to share instrumental or vocal pieces in a supportive environment
- **End of term choir performances outside** in order to build community connection in a relaxed atmosphere and build performance confidence
- **Annual Christmas choir** performance to the community
- **Live-streamed BMT concerts**, allowing pupils to experience high-quality performances from across the county

These experiences ensure that music is woven into the cultural life of the school and are accessible to all pupils.

Wider performance opportunities

The Longwick Choir plays a central role in the school's musical life. Choir members regularly take part in:

- Echoes at the Royal Albert Hall, a large-scale massed-choir event organised by BMT
- Young Voices, the world's largest school choir concert series

Local community performances, such as the Longwick Christmas Carol Singalong and other village events

Choir club is free. Pupil Premium children are eligible to have half the cost of their instrumental tuition paid for by Bucks Music Trust. School support children of families where cost is a barrier. Recorders are provided by school.

Music club is free to pupils in KS1

In the future

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

Longwick C of E School is committed to strengthening and expanding its music provision over the coming years so that every pupil leaves us with a deeper understanding of music, greater confidence as a performer, and a broader range of musical experiences.

Future development of the curriculum

The school aims to continue improving the quality and breadth of the music curriculum across all key stages. Priorities include:

- Ensuring that more pupils can read and understand musical notation confidently by the end of Year 6.
- Broadening exposure to different musical genres, traditions, and cultures to enrich pupils' musical understanding.
- Strengthening partnerships with secondary school music departments.

Expanding musical experiences

- Longwick intends to offer an even richer programme of musical experiences that inspire pupils and celebrate their achievements. Planned developments include:
- Increasing the number of in-school workshops led by visiting musicians, composers, and music specialists.
- Developing more opportunities for pupils to perform within the community, strengthening links with local organisations, schools, churches and events.
- Enhancing the use of live and digital performances, including collaborations with the BMT and other arts partners.

Strengthening partnerships

- The school plans to deepen its relationships with external music providers noted above to ensure pupils benefit from high-quality specialist input. This includes exploring partnerships with local secondary schools and arts organisations to broaden pupils' musical horizons.

Further information (optional)

Use this space to provide any further information about your school's music development plan, including links to your local music hub partners, other local music education organisations and contacts.

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.

Your local music hub should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.

If your school is part of a multi-academy trust with a trust-wide music development plan, you may also want to include a link to any published information on this plan.