

Music development plan summary The Downley School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	01/09/2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Kimela Holding
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Bucks music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rock Steady Music

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.

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.

All children have a weekly whole class lessons and we follow the RockSteady music curriculum. A broad range of music is taught covering a diverse range of genres and cultures. Music from different time periods and from around the world is evenly balanced throughout the curriculum. Our music curriculum develops the children's musical skill through singing listening, composing and performing.

The Year 4 students have whole class ukulele ensemble lessons for the year. This enables the children who would not otherwise have the opportunity to learn an instrument through regular weekly lessons to gain the basic skills at the beginner level of ukulele.

Our lessons take into consideration children with SEND. Accessible instruments and materials are provided.

Part B: Extra-curricular music, choirs and ensembles.

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.

In addition to the weekly whole class music lessons, there are optional instrumental lessons in guitar. These lessons are offered on a one-to-one, paired or small group basis. Our tutors are currently provided by Buckinghamshire music hub. Parents and carers pay for these lessons. The company provide Instruments to support the children in their lessons. Buckinghamshire music trust offer 50% off lessons for PP and FSM students.

The children are also able to sign up for RockSteady music tuition. All instruments are provided by the company for the children to use on a weekly basis. These sessions are weekly and through this the children earn a performance qualification. RockSteady also offer a bursary place for the school to allocate to a student.

We have a lunchtime choir for KS2, Year 3 to Year 6 that runs for half an hour week and is free of charge. The choir is open for all KS2 pupils who wish to attend. The choir members have the opportunity to perform and events inside and outside of the 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.

There are performance opportunities each term.

Throughout the school year the whole school take part in the weekly singing of our Jigsaw song, linked to our PSHE learning. The children also take part in weekly singing assemblies, exposing the children to a diverse range of music. We have termly class assemblies where the children perform to their parents and peers. The Rocksteady bands perform in termly musical concerts, raising the status of this opportunity and encouraging more students to join. There are also recitals for the children who take part in individual music lessons.

In the Autumn term Reception and Year 1 perform a Nativity and the choir perform at the schools Christmas fayre. KS1 also take part in the Harvest festival in the Autumn term. In the Summer term Year 6 have their end of year production and the choir perform at the summer fayre. Year 4 have a ukulele concert in the summer term.

The school choir have the opportunity to perform in extra curricular events including bi-annual ECHOES events at The Royal Albert Hall, bi-annual Energize performances at

The Wycombe Swan. Also performing in the community at the Wycombe light switch on.

In the future

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

The plan for the future is to:

- ✓ Book a trip, to see a performance, for the academic year in 2024-25.
- Organise a music theme day 2025-2026
- Choir performances; ECHOES at The Royal Albert Hall, YoungVoices at Wembley Arena and performing in community events throughout the year.
- ✓ To continue to develop the music curriculum ensuring that music at The Downley School.

Further information (optional)

Bucks music trust - [Buckinghamshire Music Trust – Music Tuition and Ensembles Throughout Buckinghamshire \(bucksmusic.org\)](#)

RockSteady Music - [Home - Rocksteady Music School](#)