

PARKSIDE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

MUSIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2026-2027

Overview

This Music Development Plan outlines how Parkside Community Primary School delivers high-quality music education through curriculum music, co-curricular opportunities and musical experiences. The plan is informed by the Department for Education National Plan for Music Education, The Power of Music to Change Lives, and Parkside's Music Curriculum.

Vision for Music

At Parkside, we believe every child is a musician. Our vision is to enable all pupils to sing, play instruments, create music together and progress their musical interests. Through the Kapow Primary Music Scheme, pupils develop performing, composing, listening, improvising and notation skills whilst building confidence, creativity and cultural understanding.

Curriculum Music

Music is taught weekly through Kapow Primary Music and aligned to the National Curriculum and Model Music Curriculum. Singing is a golden thread throughout learning. Pupils study pulse, rhythm, pitch, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and notation. Lessons include retrieval practice, listening and appraisal, modelling, performance and reflection. Inclusive adaptations ensure access for SEND and EAL pupils.

Instrumental Learning

Pupils experience tuned and untuned instruments throughout school. Year 3 and Year 4 pupils participate in trombone sessions delivered through Hertfordshire Music Service. Pupils are encouraged to continue instrumental learning through wider opportunities including iRock and external tuition.

Co-curricular Music

Current opportunities include iRock bands, instrumental tuition opportunities, performances, assemblies, productions and seasonal events. The school aims to further develop choir and ensemble provision in line with national expectations.

Musical Experiences

Pupils regularly sing in assemblies and participate in performances including the Nativity, class assemblies and annual productions. The school aims to provide at least one live musical experience each year and termly performance opportunities.

Inclusion

Music is for every child. Visual supports, adapted instruments, modelling, repetition, peer support and alternative recording methods are used so that all pupils can participate. The curriculum celebrates music from diverse cultures and traditions.

Partnerships

Parkside works with Hertfordshire Music Service and other providers such as iRock to broaden musical opportunities. These partnerships support progression, instrumental learning and staff development.

Future Development Priorities

Develop a school choir, increase ensemble opportunities, expand instrumental pathways, strengthen assessment, increase live music opportunities, explore music technology and continue staff CPD.

Useful Links

Parkside Music Curriculum: <https://parkside.herts.sch.uk/Music-Curriculum/>

DfE National Plan for Music Education: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-power-of-music-to-change-lives-a-national-plan-for-music-education>

Model Music Curriculum: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teaching-music-in-schools>