



Music development plan summary: Jerry Clay Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Grace Farrer
Name of local music hub	Wakefield Music Services

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.

Music is a central part of the creative life of Jerry Clay Academy. It is a unique way of communicating that can inspire and motivate children. It is a vehicle for personal expression, and it can play an important part in our personal development. Music reflects the culture and society in which we live and so the teaching and learning of Music enables children to better understand the world they live in. Music is a creative subject but can also be a demanding and highly academic subject. It plays an important part in helping children to feel part of the community. As such, Music plays an important role in the day-to-day life of the Academy and helps us to celebrate, reflect and learn together as a community throughout the year.

At Jerry Clay Academy, music is taught as part of the curriculum for one hour per week, per year group.

Our Music curriculum is framed by the Charanga Curriculum with 6 units over the course of the year. Each unit has a final performance for the children to showcase their learning and provides opportunities:

- to listen to and develop their knowledge of a musical genre or form,
- to sing and learn to play musical instruments,
- to be creative in improvising and composing their own music
- to apply their knowledge and skills into at least one performance and to rehearse and refine (polish) this performance
- to evaluate their own response to the music and the performance and that of their audience.

Teachers also devise or adapt their own musical performing projects reacting to the learning in class or to events on our values calendar or in society.



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.

Every child has the chance to learn to play a musical instrument. This leads to enjoyment and a sense of achievement, provides numerous opportunities and develops valuable attributes including perseverance, resilience, concentration and self-confidence.

All children have the experience of playing tuned and untuned percussion instruments within our progressive scheme of learning.

During KS2 all our children spend at least one year learning to play the ukulele as part of the Wakefield Music Services First Access programme, developing valuable skills as a good starting point in this fantastic instrument and the knowledge that they can succeed in Music. From Key Stage 2 children can also choose to learn to play a musical instrument (piano, strings, woodwind, brass, percussions, guitar) with a visiting peripatetic teacher. Instrumental groups perform in assemblies regularly and children can get involved with further ensemble playing in bands or orchestras at a local Music Centre.

Preparing for a performance provides the children with a purposeful reason to create and celebrate progress and excellence in Music. Throughout their time in the academy, children will have the chance to perform in front of an audience of other children, parents, in the community or in other venues.

Music is often combined with Drama, Art and Dance to create varied Performing Arts opportunities including each child to experience a wide range of creative opportunities.

As well as this, children have the opportunity to sign up to music lessons taught by Wakefield Music Services from Key Stage 2. Children also take part in a Singing Assembly each week, led by Wakefield Music Services and have had the opportunity to join the School Choir as an extra-curricular activity.



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.

Jerry Clay Academy works closely with our local Music Hub, Wakefield Music Services and other visiting teachers to offer quality and engaging learning opportunities. The children are offered the opportunity to learn a musical instrument with specialist teachers. (Please ask at the school office for further details.)

We aim to share and celebrate musical achievement as much as possible through: hearing children play their instrument or sing in class or assembly, inviting other classes or parents to listen to our performances, sharing performances on Twitter or the school website and inviting groups to perform to us in school.

Classes perform regularly to parents and we have regular performances to parents and to the local community **so that** our entire community can celebrate our achievements over the year.

At Jerry Clay Academy, Music also helps us to feel part of our community; in our class, our school, our community and our wider community around the country and around the world. We cherish our links with musical groups in our community and enjoy performing alongside The Wrenthorpe Singers and Ukulele group.

A class each academic year has the opportunity to attend The Big Sing or The Big Strum which is a culmination of the partnership with Wakefield Music Services throughout the year. These events are subsidised through school funding.

In 2023, we received Arts Mark Platinum, therefore our mission is to maintain these high standards across the Arts.



In the future

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

Staff CPD through updates and coaching on the use of the Model Music Curriculum (Charanga). Provides teaching sequence for music as well as development of key musical skills and vocabulary.

Utilise time within the professional CPD calendar to ensure that staff are updated on necessary information following on from co-ordinator time.

Champion and celebrate musical performances by classes, instrumentalists and the whole school.

Incorporate opportunities for children to demonstrate performance at Greater Depth through the scope of the performance (greater technical competence demonstrated / melody performed / range of rhythm and notes within melodies / manipulation of the expressive elements of music (elements))

Continue to develop a tradition of singing and signing (Makaton/BSL)