

Music development plan summary: Stillness Junior School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	03/09/2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	01/04/2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Samantha McCartney
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Lewisham Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

At Sillness Junior School all children have a weekly whole class lesson with a music specialist. The curriculum is based on the national plan for music education and the model 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. Music technology is utilized in our curriculum.

The Year 3 students have whole class ukulele ensemble lessons for the entire year. This enables children who wouldn't otherwise have the opportunity to learn an instrument through regular weekly lessons to gain the basic skills at beginner level in ukulele.

Year 6 children have a whole term dedicated to music technology, helping them to gain the skills necessary for the continuation of their music education at key stage 3.

Our music curriculum develops our children's skills through singing, listening, composing, and performing. Weekly whole class lessons for Year 3 are currently 45 minutes long. Year 4 – 6 have lessons 1 hour 10 minutes long.

Lessons take in to consideration children with SEND. Accessable materials and instruments are provided.

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.

Music tuition

In addition to the weekly whole class music lessons, there are optional instrumental lessons in piano, clarinet, flute, drum kit, violin and guitar. These lessons are offered on a one-to-one, paired and small group basis. Our tutors are highly qualified, experienced instrumental specialists, as well as professional performers in a range of genres. Parents and Carers pay for these lessons. There are no students with subsidies on the fees for these lessons currently. Parents will need to provide their child with an instrument for lessons in Flute, Clarinet, Violin and Guitar and would be expected to have some form of access to an instrument at home for Drum kit, piano and keyboard.

Our instrumental tutors encourage the children to join ensembles at Lewisham's Saturday Music Centre and other local community groups.

There is an after school singing club for younger years on Thursdays, which is led by an outside provider.

There is an after school choir for Years 4-6 that runs for 1 hour each week over 10 weeks each term on Wednesdays 3:30 – 4:30pm, which is applied for in the same way as instrumental lessons (online form on the website).

There is an after school Djembe ensemble that runs for 45 minutes each week over 10 weeks each term on Tuesdays 3:30 – 4:15pm, which is applied for in the same way as instrumental lessons.

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.

In the Autumn term there is a whole school festive sing-a-long. This involves the whole school. Each class sings several songs and the finale is a whole school song. Parents are invited to watch free of charge. The PTA sells refreshments as a fundraiser for the school.

In the Spring term we have a concert. This event includes the choir, singing group and instrumental lessons students who learn both inside and outside of school. Ensemble and solo performances take place. This is a daytime event. Instrumental tutors put their pupils forward for this and the Music Lead puts children forward for this event.

Entrance was free.

The Summer term event is an Arts and Cultural evening showcasing all the Arts provision. This academic year will be the 3rd year of the event. Music present the pieces that the Year 3's have been learning on Ukulele throughout the year. There are recitals from the children who take part in instrumental lessons and a professional musical act at the end.

In the future

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

The plan for the future is:

- Develop the new Djembe ensemble, working towards taking part in community events.
- One music trip per Year group every academic year.
- Introduce a lunchtime String ensemble, build on that and add other instruments to create a small orchestra.
- Form a school rock band.
- Have provision for subsidies to instrumental lesson fees.
- Have visiting musicians in for workshops and performances from a range of genres.

Further information (optional)

Instrumental lessons can be applied for on this link.

<https://www.stillnessjs.lewisham.sch.uk/curriculum-assessment/music/>