Music development plan summary: Listerdale Junior Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	May 2027
Name of the school music lead	Sally Hunt
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Sarah Reynolds
Name of local music hub	Rotherham Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	RMBC

Part A: Curriculum music

Listerdale Junior Academy’s music curriculum exhibits a structured and progressive framework that is embedded from the earliest stages of education through to the end of Key Stage 2. The curriculum aligns with national standards for music education in the UK, designed to foster a lifelong appreciation and commitment to music.

One of the strengths of the curriculum is its emphasis on making connections with other subjects through music. By integrating music into class topics, students can see the relevance and applicability of music in various areas of their learning. This crosscurricular approach enhances students' understanding and appreciation of music.

The curriculum progression is clearly outlined, ensuring that students build on their knowledge and skills as they progress through the years. The school follows the ACET Primary Music curriculum, which provides a framework for clear progression and development of music skills and knowledge.

Using the 'Expressive Arts and Design' aspect of the EYFS curriculum at the Foundation Stage at Listerdale effectively introduces young learners to music through singing, creation, and performance. The daily accessibility of musical instruments and movement resources ensures that pupils can engage with music in a hands-on, exploratory manner. This method is beneficial for developing coordination, rhythmic proficiency, and expressive capabilities.

Progressing into Key Stage 1, the curriculum expands on the musical experiences provided in early years, guiding pupils towards listening attentively and developing an understanding of a diverse range of music, pivotal for cultivating critical listening skills. The advancement to creating and combining sounds prepares students to delve deeper into the inter-related dimensions of music. Additionally, the capacity for using voices expressively and playing tuned and untuned instruments indicates a thoughtful approach to nurturing well-rounded musicianship.

In Key Stage 2, the curriculum aims for pupils to consolidate their acquired musical understanding and create their own music through composition and performance’s that reflect the skills and knowledge amassed over their primary education journey.Children at Listerdale also have the opportunity to go to a Halle concert where they experience a concert with an orchestra in a large concert venue. Children in lower Key stage 2 have the opportunity to learn an instrument together as a class, where they learn how to play a wind instrument and get the opportunity to perform to their classmates and other children in school.

Inclusivity is intrinsic to the curriculum, with evidence of adaptive teaching and bespoke support for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disability. Listerdale has a strong commitment to providing a genuinely accessible music education, ensuring all students, regardless of capabilities, can participate in and benefit from the music programme.

Music Overview

	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
FS2						
Year 1	Animal Mad, Using animals as a source for musical composition. Focus: Instruments sound like animals		Toys, Introducing pitch and tempo in a meaningful way. Focus: Composing a piece of music		By the Sea, Listening and responding to Classical music. Focus: Using musical instruments to represent sounds.	
Year 2	Animal Mad, Representing animal sounds using percussion. Focus: Call and response rhythm		Orchestral Instruments, Looking at the instruments in the orchestra. Focus: Music tells a story.		Kenya, Understanding music from other cultures. Focus: Soundscape from Masai Mara	
Year 3	Mountains. Story telling through music. Focus: Creating sound effects and rhythm to a story.		Rhythm and Layers. Rhythm is a pattern of long and short sounds. Focus: Rhythm and texture		Gift of the Nile, Music an important part of religious worship in Egypt. Focus: Staff and stave notation	
Year 4	Imperium Romanum, Romans used music for all occasions. Focus: Musical motif		South America, Musical traditions and culture. Focus: Samba music Rhythmical break.		Viking Saga, Using Viking stories to depict emotion and action. Focus: Listen to music from composers.	
Year 5	Musical Masque, Tudor music Pavan, Madrigal, Fanfare		Lunar Tunes, The Planets suite Focus ostinato, coda.			
Year 6	We'll Meet again Focus: Identifying how sounds can be used expressively.		The Mayan Rainforest Focus: Rhythms of the Rainforest		Leavers Song Focus: Composing a melody	

Part B: Co-curricular music

Listerdale Junior Academy's co-curricular music provision is through its partnership with Rotherham Music Hub. The offering of small group music tuition in strings, piano and woodwind instruments is a key asset, effectively catering to diverse musical interests and skill sets. These sessions serve to deepen pupils' technical prowess and foster ensemble playing, which are crucial for comprehensive musical development.

Rotherham Music Hub also conducts regular assemblies at the school. Here the Hub showcases the variety of instruments available for learning but also serves to inspire and inform pupils, potentially increasing participation in music programmes.

Listerdale also engages with Rocksteady music who teach small groups of children on rock band instruments. There are currently 5 bands who have the opportunity to practice together every week and perform each term to their parents and the children in school. Rock Steady give children the opportunity to explore different instruments at the Summer Fair allowing them to make decisions about which instrument they would like to play. This is widening participation of instrumental provision within the school.

Music Assemblies are also a regular event including live performances from professional musicians and then subsequent ones from bands 3 times a year.

Part C: Musical experiences

The Christmas performances for parents are an excellent opportunity for students to engage with the community and for the school to celebrate the achievements of its pupils. These performances, along with the inclusive practice of learning and singing carols at a local church service, provide practical performance experience and contribute to the pupils' confidence and enjoyment of music. It is particularly commendable that this tradition caters to all age groups within the school, from Foundation Stage to Key Stage 2, ensuring a broad involvement in these festive musical activities.

Children at Listerdale sing regularly as part of their learning and for enjoyment, each class has their own class song which they practice and perform to other children in the school. The school also has a choir who have been involved in performances at Rotherham Minster and have also been involved with the one voice project.

Listerdale Junior Academy's Summer Music Festival is a key event where each class showcases their musical prowess. In a diverse array of group and solo acts, pupils present the skills developed throughout the year to an audience of peers, and staff, fostering school spirit and celebrating their hard work in a jubilant, communal atmosphere.

In the future

Looking ahead, Listerdale Junior Academy is committed to continuous improvement and expansion of its music provision, ensuring that future years will see even more enriching musical experiences for its pupils. As part of our curriculum music enhancement, we aim to integrate the use of whole class instruments by the next academic year to help students gain experience of playing instruments together.

For our co-curricular activities, we plan to introduce a wider range of instrumental clubs and ensembles,building on from our whole class lessons in Key Stage 2, we hope to establish a recorder club in the future. This initiative is envisioned to cultivate diverse musical interests and offer a broad introduction to different genres and cultures.

We recognise the immense value of live performances and are determined to increase the number of concerts and community events. By the following year, we seek to establish partnerships with ACET Senior Academies to provide workshops and collaborative performance opportunities, giving pupils the chance to learn from and perform alongside older musicians.

These enhancements to our music education not only aim to deepen the students' technical skills and appreciation for music but also to develop their creativity,

collaboration, and confidence. We are dedicated to making these ambitious changes to provide our pupils with a truly dynamic and holistic musical journey at Listerdale.

Further information (optional)

Rotherham Music Hub - https://www.rotherhammusic.co.uk