# Music development plan summary: Archbishop Courtenay Primary School

## Overview

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| Detail | Information |
| Academic year that this summary covers | 2024-2025 |
| Date this summary was published | September 2024 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | September 2025 |
| Name of the school music lead | Kiley Smith |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | Jodie Bond – Deputy Headteacher |
| Name of local music hub | Kent Music |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | iRock |

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.

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| Our full curriculum can be found here: <https://www.archbishopcourtenay.org.uk/music-5/>  At Archbishop Courtenay, we believe music is a powerful and enriching force in children's lives. Our primary music curriculum aims to cultivate a lifelong appreciation for music, fostering essential skills through weekly one-hour lessons taught by class teachers, supported by specialist planning and the Sing Up curriculum scheme. These lessons encompass singing, instrumental playing, composing, and active listening, ensuring a well-rounded musical education. We supplement this with weekly 20-minute singing assemblies, creating a vibrant and communal musical atmosphere. Our curriculum is designed to be inclusive, reflecting our school values of **compassion** by ensuring all children can participate and experience the joy of music, **friendship** through collaborative musical activities, and **respect** for diverse musical traditions.  We are committed to providing a rich and engaging musical experience for all children, ensuring that music from different time periods and around the world is evenly represented throughout our curriculum. Informed by the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021), we strive to develop children's musical knowledge, understanding, and creativity. We aim to nurture confident and expressive musicians who can collaborate, perform, and appreciate the beauty and diversity of music, leaving primary school with a solid foundation for future musical engagement. Through the challenges of learning new instruments and pieces, we foster **aspiration** and **resilience**, encouraging children to persevere and celebrate their musical achievements.  Every morning, as pupils arrive in the classroom, they are greeted by a different genre of music being played, enhancing their daily experience and connection to music. Additionally, we incorporate music into our Spanish lessons, further enriching the learning experience and cultural understanding. |

## 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.

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| **Music Tuition:**  In addition to the weekly music lessons, there are optional music lessons that the children can take part in: iRock School of Music enriches the musical experience at Archbishop Courtenay by providing dynamic 30-minute rock and pop band sessions led by expert musicians with extensive industry experience. These weekly sessions, integrated into the school schedule like peripatetic lessons, foster teamwork, confidence, and social skills by grouping children into bands of up to nine, where they choose to play drums, guitar, keyboard, or sing. Through collaborative playing, children learn to work as a team, boost their mental health, and develop a genuine love for music, all while significantly enhancing their musical abilities. Parents and carers pay for these lessons.  **Choir:**  Archbishop Courtenay boasts a thriving Key Stage 2, primary school choir, a vibrant and inclusive group that meets weekly for an hour of joyful singing. Led by the enthusiastic Kiley Smith, this free choir provides a wonderful opportunity for children to develop their vocal skills, build confidence, and experience the joy of making music together as a team. The choir's repertoire spans a wide range of genres, fostering a love of music and creating a strong sense of community within the school. If you wish to be a part of our choir please book through the MCAS app.  At The Diocese of Canterbury Academies Trust, our pupils have the exciting opportunity to participate in the Aquila Trust choir, collaborating with other schools within the MAT. This initiative not only enhances their musical skills but also fosters a sense of community and friendship among students from diverse backgrounds. Through regular rehearsals and performances, pupils learn the value of teamwork, develop their confidence, and experience the joy of collective creativity, all while embodying our school's values of compassion and respect. This collaboration enriches their educational experience and strengthens the bonds within our MAT community.  **OPAL Play:**  This year, Archbishop Courtenay is excited to embark on our OPAL play journey, transforming our playtime environment into a rich and stimulating space for creative exploration. We plan to introduce a variety of loose parts, natural materials, and designated play zones, fostering imaginative play and problem-solving skills. Crucially, we will integrate opportunities for musical expression during playtime, providing instruments and sound-making materials to encourage spontaneous music-making, allowing children to explore rhythm, melody, and sound in a playful and unstructured setting. |

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.

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| At Archbishop Courtenay, children are immersed in a rich tapestry of musical experiences throughout the year. In the Autumn term, our youngest learners in EYFS and KS1 shine brightly as they perform a heartening Christmas Nativity, showcasing their developing vocal skills through a variety of festive songs. This cherished tradition not only builds confidence but also fosters a sense of community and celebration. Further extending the festive spirit, the entire school community gathers at our local church for a special Christmas worship service, where joyous carols resonate, filling the space with warmth and shared merriment.  Beyond these school-wide events, our dedicated school choir actively engages with the wider community. During the festive season, they embark on a heart-warming mission to spread cheer by visiting a local residential care home. Through their thoughtful performance of beloved Christmas carols, the children bring joy and connection to the residents, creating precious moments of intergenerational interaction and demonstrating the power of music to uplift and connect. These diverse musical experiences, from stage performances to community outreach, ensure that every child at Archbishop Courtenay has the opportunity to explore, create, and share the joy of music.  Our musical journey continues into the Spring term, where children are offered the incredible opportunity to participate in the Young Voices choir at the O2 Arena. This remarkable experience, though requiring parental contribution, allows children to join thousands of others in a mass choir, creating unforgettable memories.  In the Summer term, Year 6 culminates their primary music education by performing a full-scale musical production, showcasing their acquired knowledge and skills. Our school choir also delights audiences at the Summer Fayre, adding a vibrant musical backdrop to the festivities.  Furthermore, throughout the year, children enrolled in iRock lessons have the chance to demonstrate their progress and passion through termly concerts, performing for the school and their proud parents. These diverse musical experiences, from stage performances to community outreach, ensure that every child at Archbishop Courtenay has the opportunity to explore, create, and share the joy of music. |

## In the future

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

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| * Further develop music during playtimes. * Investigate a more traditional music instrument tuition * Teach a specific instrument? * Create a dedicate space for musical instruments * Further develop performance opportunities for our young musicians |

## Further information (optional)

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| <https://www.irockschool.com/>  <https://www.kent-music.com/>  <https://www.singup.org/>  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people>  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-music-programmes-of-study>  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teaching-music-in-schools>  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-power-of-music-to-change-lives-a-national-plan-for-music-education>  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-importance-of-music-a-national-plan-for-music-education>  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-in-england-a-review-by-darren-henley-for-the-department-for-education-and-the-department-for-culture-media-and-sport> |