

Music development plan summary: Countess Gytha Primary School



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	David Gordon
Name of local music hub	Somerset – Sound Foundation (info@soundfoundationsomerset.org.uk)

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our children 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 all to understand what our school offers.

Part A: Curriculum music

This is about what we teach in lesson time and how much time is spent teaching music.

At Countess Gytha Primary School, children gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres. We are committed to developing a curiosity for the subject, as well as an understanding and acceptance of the validity and importance of all types of music, and an unbiased respect for the role that music may wish to be expressed in any person's life. We aim to provide children with the opportunity to progress to the next level of their creative excellence.

The music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play, perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom lessons as well as the weekly singing assemblies, various concerts and performances throughout the year and if desired, the learning of instruments through private tuition.

Through the musical program Charanga, teachers are able to produce inclusive lessons for all children to access the musical curriculum in a fun and engaging way, further promoting a love of learning. The full curriculum can be found at our school website here - [Countess Gytha Unit Descriptions](#)

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.

Pupils at Countess Gytha have the following opportunities beyond the expectations of the National Curriculum to pursue their passion and talents in music:

- Weekly piano lessons in either 1:1 or small group tuition
- Weekly choir singing sessions led by school staff

For further information such as tuition cost and other instrumental opportunities, please contact the school office via 01935 850345 or office@countessgytha.ppat365.org

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.

At Countess Gytha children are provided with opportunities beyond the National Curriculum to further and support their understanding. These include having visitors with a musical talent, visiting concerts and school productions. External musical talents are also encouraged and showcased in class and assembly. Predominantly however, our additional musical experiences are as follows – there are no charges to participation, production or viewing of these events:

Regular Events:

- Singing in our weekly assembly rota
- Weekly choir singing provided by school staff

Termly/Annual Events:

- Key Stage 1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 performing – Year 3,4,5,6 audience) Nativity – Christmas period
- Key Stage 2 (Year 5,6 performing – Reception, Year 1,2,3,4 audience) End of Year Production – July
- Whole School Harvest Festival – St Barnabas Church - Autumn period
- Carol Concert (Year 3,4,5 performing – optional audience attendance open to all other year groups) – St Barnabas Church – Christmas period
- Whole School Easter Celebration – St Barnabas Church – Spring period
- Choir Singing Events throughout school year (optional attendance if participating in choir)

In the future

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

As we continue to progress our musical offer, we are considering how best to implement the following:

- We are committed to ensuring each child receives weekly music lessons totalling one hour
- As a small school, we are keen to develop our links with local musicians to further broaden our additional tuition opportunities
- Working with local schools, we are exploring the possibility of co-hosting or attending jointly produced musical events

Further information

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

A full curriculum overview for music is available on our school website here - [Countess Gytha Music](#)