



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Bek Rider
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	Herefordshire Education Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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.

In Early Years children are surrounded by music. Singing, nursery rhymes, instruments and the opportunity to play the piano in reception, start children’s musical journey at St Thomas Cantilupe.

We have a dedicated music room for rehearsals, lessons, and peripatetic tuition.

In Key Stages 1 and 2, pupils receive a minimum of one hour of teaching a week; this may take the form of short sessions spread across the week. Music lessons are delivered by pupils’ class teacher, using resources from the ‘Kapow’ music curriculum.

There is access to both rhythmic and melodic instruments in Key Stages 1 and 2; this may be as part of the whole-class instrumental programme and/or in other classroom teaching.

All pupils in KS2 learn to play the recorder as part of the class music lessons.

Music has a rare and unique ability to bring people together; music making can make a whole class, school and community feel connected to others and part of something bigger. St. Thomas Cantilupe school celebrates the inclusion of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities. Teachers set high expectations for every pupil, whatever their prior attainment. They use appropriate assessment to set targets which are deliberately ambitious. Potential areas of difficulty are identified and

addressed at the outset. Lessons are planned to address potential areas of difficulty and to remove barriers to pupil achievement

Part B:

Extra-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.

In KS2, a number of pupils currently have the opportunity to learn the trumpet, flute or clarinet. Pupils are taught by local, specialist music teachers. Lessons take place outside of normal curriculum time, in our dedicated music room. Pupils are provided with teaching and instruments, free of charge, to enable them to practise at home. This innovative scheme has been shared with our local music hub and is supported by Hereford Cathedral.

From Year 2 upwards, pupils have the opportunity to join the school choir. This is run and supported by specialist music teachers, who meet with choir once a week. The choir take part in a concert at least once a term, as well as local music festivals. Staff participate in this choir, also.

The school also acts as a venue for local choirs, due to the wonderful acoustics in our school hall.

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.

All pupils take part in a weekly choral praise singing assembly, where new songs for daily worship and celebrations, are learned.

Through our links with specialist music teachers and other local schools, children have many opportunities to experience musical performances, such as organ recitals in Hereford Cathedral. In addition, this includes opportunities in music, dance and drama, working with 2FacedDance alongside performances at the local Courtyard theatre. We attend, with pupils from Hereford Cathedral school, music recitals from visiting musicians at Hereford Cathedral school. Musical performances are usually free of charge.

We were supported in 2024-2025 by music scholars from Hereford Cathedral including the choral scholar and organ scholar who supported our weekly music lessons across the school, attended our choral praise assembly and gave piano lessons to pupils.

Every academic year, each year group has the opportunity to take part in a school production, to which families, friends and carers are invited. Music and song form a significant element of these productions.

The school choir is regularly invited to sing at local events. In the past, they have performed at an 'Age Concern' Christmas celebration, in All Saints at their Christmas Tree Festival and as part of the Advent service in a massed DHMAT schools' choir, in Hereford Cathedral. They have also travelled to a school in Oxford, to take part in Zimbe! – a sequence of choral arrangements of traditional African songs. Our school choir is led by a teacher and supported by Hereford Cathedral Precentor.

Our school choir, alongside others, was 'highly commended' in its first experience of the Hereford Performing Arts Festival.

In addition, the choir has led Holy Communion at Holy Trinity church.

In a unique service, our choir sing Evensong, alongside the choristers, at Hereford Cathedral once a year.

In the future

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

We have been lucky enough to have been gifted different tuned instruments. Many of them are currently being played by pupils, but in the future, we would like to offer stringed instrument lessons and to provide even more pupils with the opportunity to learn a variety of tuned instruments.

Our offer for KS2 pupils includes clarinet, trumpet, flute, saxophone, keyboard. The lessons, instrument and music workbooks are funded by the school so there is no financial barrier for our families. We are looking to source more instruments through grant funding to offer more pupils opportunities.

We have recently acquired a collection of Indian instruments including percussion and tuned e.g. sitar, dholak. We would like to offer children the opportunity to learn more about these instruments and potentially run a club whereby pupils can learn more about traditional Indian music.

We would also like to extend the performance opportunities for our choir and instrumentalists.

Further information

<https://www.encore-enterprises.com/herefordshire-music-education-hub>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people>