

Music development plan summary

- Our schools currently offer a timetabled provision of at least 1 hour of music per week to each of our classes. Lessons are delivered by a range of teachers (including some musicians).
- The curriculum is planned in accordance with guidance from NYC and covers a broad range of musical topics. It is progressive, as you will see from our curriculum development grid.
- Pupils currently have the opportunity to undertake instrumental lessons within school that are provided by the North Yorkshire Music Hub. It is our intention to continue to raise the profile of this offer.
- Each week, one assembly (20-30 mins) is committed to pupils singing as part of a vocal ensemble. These rehearsals often provide us with material for our monthly services at Gunnerside Chapel. In addition, all pupils also sing Christmas carols at a local market in December and many perform in a local residential home. Our singing is often recognised positively by locals who attend our services.
- A regular ukulele group is offered to all KS2 pupils throughout the year. Ukulele players are offered performance opportunities within some of our services.
- Space is at a premium on both of our sites, but our libraries are a space in which pupils can take lessons, rehearse and practise when necessary.
- Alongside monthly services, pupils also perform more significantly during our Christmas carol performances, a nativity (in KS1) and an end-of-year production (in Upper KS2). Many also perform in an Easter service.
- Pupils benefit from live performances by artists through the local Swaledale Festival (most recently, Craig Ogden) but this is not currently an annual occurrence. Over the course of this year, we will seek to improve this offer so that pupils enjoy live music at least once each year (and ideally each term).

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	October 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	Autumn 2025
Name of the school music lead	Tom Fremlin
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	North Yorkshire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Swaledale Festival

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.

For full details of our music curriculum, please see

<https://reethandgunnerside.org.uk/children/curriculum/music/>

Our curriculum is based on NYCC guidance and recognises those key skills suggested in the Model Music Curriculum (2021). We are currently seeking to develop our curriculum by exploring the curriculum further, seeking opportunities to use more music technology.

A key aim of our school is to make music inclusive to all pupils, including those with additional needs. All pupils have access to school instruments as a part of our lessons, and staff to pupil ratios are high in all of our classrooms (enabling a close level of support where required). Adjustments such as smaller group sizes in UKS2 have already been made in order to allow all learners to flourish. Moving forwards, investments in new equipment and technology may provide further capacity to support a variety of learners.

Music is a key part of our learning at Reeth and Gunnerside, with all pupils receiving their weekly timetabled provision (1 hour of music). Within this: they will listen, learn theory, rehearse, perform and, on occasion, compose. In order to develop their musical skills, pupils use singing and have the opportunity to play musical instruments (like keyboards, chime bars, untuned percussion, xylophones, bell plates). Performance forms a part of most weekly lessons and is usually collaborative in nature (though budding musicians are encouraged to offer their individual talents where they wish to). Playing is modelled by a teacher and supported with conducting, counting and enthusiasm. Performances may be whole class, small group or individual (some pupils are allowed to opt out of performance based on their individual needs).

Currently, the school has partnerships with the North Yorkshire Music Hub and the Swaledale Festival. Further links to be explored include: Leyburn Jazz Festival and reaching out to local musicians.

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.

We work in conjunction with the North Yorkshire Music Hub to provide instrumental tuition to our interested pupils. Currently, we have uptake (which is parent driven) for guitar lessons which take place on a Monday at Gunnerside School. Parents opt for these sessions and pay in accordance with NYMH guidance. Other pupils have music lessons (some to high standards) outside of our school day with independent providers. Moving forwards, it would be great to raise the profile of our in-school offer so that more pupils might choose to access them.

Pupils in Y3 to Y6 can join a ukulele group. This provides group tuition and resources to any aspiring players. This is offered for free, is completely inclusive and includes the loan of an instrument to those who need one.

Our singing provision within assemblies enables all pupils to sing as part of a vocal ensemble (we rehearse as KS1 on our Reeth site and as KS2 on our Gunnerside site). Sessions are guided and accompanied by backing tracks or instruments. Performance opportunities are regular (monthly). Everybody is encouraged to participate (including staff).

If pupils wish to rehearse within our school spaces, our libraries provide a suitable environment within which to achieve this. We currently have a pupil working towards a Grade 3 examination who uses this opportunity.

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.

Our school will offer a range of musical experiences in the coming year (2024/25):

- Weekly singing assemblies.
- Monthly services within Gunnerside Chapel where all pupils participate in singing.
- A regular ukulele group at KS2.
- A Nativity Service (pupils from KS1 will perform in all songs).
- Christmas Carol Concerts at Gunnerside, Reeth Market and in a local residential home (some of these will be performed by all pupils, others will be performed by those in KS2).

- A performance from a musician associated with the Swaledale Festival, Fischy Music or an alternative (or all of these). If this is not possible, a performance from a member of school staff.
- End-of-Year/Leavers' Performance (all pupils in Year 5 and 6 will perform a musical, often to a large audience).

Currently, there is no charge to any parents for any of these experiences.

In the future

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

During the coming year, we aim to continue to develop our provision of music in the following ways.

- Raise the profile of our relationship with NYMH to parents; this might result in an increase in uptake of their music lessons.
- Consider starting a school choir at KS2 as an extra-curricular provision.
- Involve musical performance as a key part of our Easter Service (achieving three big performance opportunities within the school year).
- Work in partnership with other organisations and musicians to allow pupils more regular access to live performance. This could include a trip to see a concert.
- Find CPD opportunities for music leaders and music teachers to develop their lessons with a particular focus on the use of musical technology.
- Continue to build on the success of our weekly singing offer which has enhanced pupil confidence and ability – this is clear during our monthly services.
- Encourage pupils to recognise that music can be both a key part of their learning and be of benefit in supporting their mental wellbeing.
- Inspire more pupils to play an instrument!