

Music development plan summary: Ash Lea School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	05.11.24
Date this summary will be reviewed	05.11.25
Name of the school music lead	James Sheppard
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Caroline Morrison / Vicky Skillington
Name of local music hub	Nottinghamshire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Inspire Charanga Sounds of Intent Artsmark

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.

Ash Lea School is a special school with pupils ranging from 3 – 18 years. The school currently has 99 pupils on role with needs including Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities, Severe Learning Disabilities and Moderate Learning Disabilities.

Our ‘My Creativity: Music’ curriculum area is coherently planned and sequenced to develop knowledge, build on prior learning and prepare pupils for their next steps. Through this curriculum area, our aim is to give pupils an appreciation and understanding of different styles genres of music created throughout the world and through time. There is a focused approach on listening, anticipating, reacting, creating music, improvisation, composition, performing and if appropriate leading music interaction for the pupils throughout the year. As well as following the scheme of

learning, we promote an intervention responsive curriculum approach, ensuring we tailor the curriculum to pupils' individual needs as and when required and when specific issues arise.

At Ash Lea, we follow 'Sounds of Intent', an approach devised by Dr Adam Ockleford. <https://soundsofintent.app/start/index>

As part of our Music curriculum, we provide:

- A scheme of learning that provides experiences, skills, knowledge and activities linked to termly topics for all our learners from those following the pre-formal curriculum offer (mainly for pupils with PMLD) through to our Semi-Formal and Formal curriculum.
- Timetabled music sessions each week across the school year for all classes and curricular pathways.
- Regular opportunities to watch performances of live music and be involved in creative performances

In the school year 2023/24, Ash Lea obtained the Silver ArtsMark award.

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.

Ash Lea school also provides:

- Post16 pupils attend an Inclusive choir run by 'Singing Hands', at St. Luke's Church in West Bridgford supported by the local music hub
- An annual Christmas themed performance at a local community venue
- Promotion of opportunities for parents and pupils to attend extra-curricular local community groups such as the NDSSG Dance Warriors and FTM dance
- Cultural capital opportunities to visit the theatre, concerts, and galleries for all pupils
- Work with Jessie's fund to develop staff training in teaching of music, and opportunities for external providers to work with pupils to expand the musical offer within the curriculum

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.

Pupils at Ash Lea school have frequent opportunities to enjoy live performance across the year.

These include:

- Theatre trips, shows and presentations, and an annual trip to the pantomime
- Termly visits from Inspire music band who play songs linked to the topic
- Weekly sing and sign sessions to support the links between communication and music
- In the last academic year, a group of accessed a West End production in London, while another group had an invite to see an inclusive production in the central library in Nottingham.

In the future

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

We are developing links with the Able Orchestra group, through Inspire, and are looking to be involved in the setting up of a hub to establish an ensemble in the south of the county. This would be offered as an extra-curricular offer, and accessible by other schools and community groups.

We intend to work towards achieving the Gold ArtsMark award, in the coming years. This will reflect the development of the creative offer and opportunities at Ash Lea School.