Music at Long Row – Music Development Plan Summary Document 2026-2027

Overview

School: Long Row Primary School Trust/LA: Derbyshire

Local Music Hub: Derbyshire Music Education Hub

Music Lead: Anna Zawadzki-Brown Headteachers: Lisa White & Julie Jones

This is a summary of how our school delivers music curriculum to all 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

Music is taught as a discrete subject on a weekly basis using the Charanga Scheme of Music, but this is not the limit of exposure to music. Most of the Charanga lessons will usually be between 45 minutes or one hour, made up of Listen and Appraise, Musical Activities and Perform/Share. Where appropriate across the whole curriculum, music is used to enhance learning and experiences, whether that be by listening to a wide range of different music in assemblies and in the classroom, or watching music being performed online, or live if possible. Music is also used to support our SMILERS work in promoting and supporting the wellbeing of the whole school community. As a school, we were recently awarded the GOLD SMILERS award to reflect the importance of wellbeing within our school.

The units we use from the Charanga scheme include elements from the non-statutory guidance for teaching music for Key Stages 1 and 2 and the Model Music Curriculum. Units are chosen to allow progression in music and also to link with learning in other areas of the curriculum.

All children from Reception to Year 6 take part in a weekly singing assembly (15 minutes) that allows structured opportunities to further develop listening and performing skills, as well as continued music vocabulary development through discussion and personal reflection of the music. Singing also takes part in other assemblies through the week.

All children have the opportunity to play tuned and non-tuned percussion instruments, with particular focus on using glockenspiels and handbells during whole-class teaching to create and perform music.

All children in Year 4 participate in the Derbyshire Wider Opportunities scheme – this academic year they will be learning to play the trumpet or cornet.

Part B: Co-curricular music

We take great pride in the number of children who take part in co-curricular music activities that allow them to enhance their music experiences outside of curriculum lesson time.

Derbyshire Music Partnership Peripatetic Tuition is currently well established for flute, recorder, brass, ukulele, strings and piano. Rock Steady bands also take place weekly. Drumming tuition is also offered and continues to be very popular. This academic year guitar lessons are also being offered. Details on tuition fees can be obtained from the School Office. In some circumstances, tuition is subsidised or free.

A weekly lunchtime Key Stage 2 choir takes place (led by the Music Coordinator) with c.40 children currently involved. Opportunities to perform with the school and local community take place each term. This year Choir will also continue to share our SMILERS work when we perform in the local community. There is no individual cost to be in the choir.

The Long Row Orchestra has continued to grow and is led by staff from the Music Hub. They perform at our school concerts and also performed at the South East Derbyshire Music Centre Summer concert too. The Rock Steady bands also perform for the school/wider school community each term.

A dedicated music room has been established for 1:1/small group lessons. Larger groups (e.g. Rock Steady) use the school hall or library. Wider Opportunities Lessons take place in a Year 4 classroom.

Through our links with the Derby and Derbyshire Music Partnership, children are signposted to weekend, after-school and holiday provision for music progression opportunities, such as the South East Derbyshire Music Centre and the Derbyshire Junior Choir. These are regularly signposted to from our school website.

Part C: Musical Experiences

In additional to regular musical experiences, like our weekly singing assemblies, children have opportunities to participate or be a member of the audience at several points during the year. Music Concerts happen in school three times a year (Winter, Spring and Summer) and in addition to this EYFS and KS1 put on Christmas performances, and KS2 have a Carol Service at Christ Church. These are attended by children and the wider school community.

This year, EYFS and Key Stage 1 will attend 'The Snowman with Live Orchestra' (December 2026) to experience a live concert, and Key Stage 2 will attend the Pantomime at Derby Arena (December 2026) to experience a live musical theatre performance. We are also taking part in the Royal Ballet and Opera Live Lesson Events, including 'Discover Opera' (October 2026); 'Everybody Sing: The Magic Flute' (November 2026) and 'The Big Ballet '27: The Wind in the Willows' (February 2027). The purpose of these events is to inspire creativity through singing, dance and design.

Year 4 have the option to attend a live concert as part of the Wider Opportunities Scheme in the summer. Local music groups, e.g. South East Derbyshire Music School, are welcomed to school to perform to the children.

In the future

Music at Long Row is a strength of the school. We were proud to be chosen as a Music Mark School for 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, and when these awards changed last academic year to 'The Music Mark of Recognition for Schools', we were chosen to receive the 'Ambition and Quality' award. We have also been selected to receive this award for 2026-2027, to reflect our commitment to 'advocate for the importance of music education in the curriculum and creative life of our school; to provide an equitable, diverse and inclusive music education for every young person; and to welcome opportunities to broaden our musical horizons by working with providers in our community and beyond.'

Our music curriculum continues to evolve, to best suit the needs of our pupils, our whole-school curriculum and to provide a wider range of music opportunities for all.

Further information

Further information about Music at Long Row can be found on our website:
https://www.longrow.derbyshire.sch.uk/music-2/

There are also links to the Derbyshire Music Education Hub and Charanga on our music page:
https://www.derbyshiremusichub.org.uk/home.aspx

https://derbyshire.charanga.com/site/

Last updated: October 2026