Music development plan summary:
Thomas Hinderwell Primary Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Rebecca Bentley
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Holly Hawden
Name of local music hub	North Yorkshire Music Service (NYMS)
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	DRET and The Royal Opera House

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 enrichment – 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.

As an academy belonging to the David Ross Education Trust, we benefit from an extensive trust-wide music programme. This includes a trust-wide music curriculum including Daily Music, collaborative performances in large venues (including the DRET Primary Music Festival and Choral Festival), the opportunity to experience professional performances, and all Year 5 students performing an opera. Further details of the DRET Music Programme can be found at http://www.dret.co.uk/music.

The three goals of the DRET Music Way are:

All students experience excellent music teaching in the classroom, with its focus on developing musical understanding – how music works and how it conveys meaning. (Curriculum Music)

Students are given the opportunity to learn an instrument, with 1:1 / group lessons taking place during the school day, and to practise individually and rehearse in instrumental and vocal groups before school and after school. (Co-curricular Music)

Students participate in a series of musical events running through the year – assemblies, student concerts, school shows, workshops, residencies, arts weeks, trips to professional concerts – in which they experience music as a vital element in public culture. (Musical enrichment)

Our music development plan aims to achieve these three goals in our school.

Part A: Curriculum music

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

Music plays a central role within the curriculum at Thomas Hinderwell Primary Academy, and it is for every child, including those with SEND. It is fundamental to the wider mission of creating aspirational and knowledge-rich pupils. Our curriculum is fully informed by the model music curriculum from the DFE and non-statutory guidance for the teaching of music. Thomas Hinderwell Primary Academy is fortunate to be part of DRET and our music offer is enhanced by their support.

Pupils will perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. Pupils will also learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and progress to the next level of musical excellence. Furthermore, pupils with understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the interrelated dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notation.

The Music curriculum at THPA aims to ensure that all children:

- Sing with a wide range and with a variety of expression
- Sing confidently in parts
- Read staff notation
- Experience playing an orchestral instrument in a class ensemble (and to be given the opportunity to continue learning the instrument in smaller groups/one-to-one)
- Hear a youth or professional orchestra live
- Hear a youth, church or professional choir live

The music curriculum offer is in two parts. Firstly, we teach music for an hour a week every other half term for the timetabled curriculum offer. In addition, we have a daily music lesson every day where we develop musicianship skills for 10 mins.

For EYFS and KS1 the curriculum is based around the Kodaly principle; a child-centred approach to music learning which develops the musicianship skills of singing, pulse and rhythm. Children learn to sing, listen and move to music developing their internal sense of pulse, from which rhythm clapping, speaking and reading is developed. By KS2, the pupils are ready to apply these skills onto instruments and within composing activities. Learning more about musical theory such as form and harmony and standard music notation.

Daily Music occurs in every class to develop musicianship skills. This ‘little and often’ approach helps pupils to practice their substantive knowledge and develop the softer musical skills of enjoying music as a social activity, enhance well-being and creativity.

We are hoping to work in partnership with NYMS to support the delivery of whole class instrument learning and currently have 12 pupils taking lessons with two professional musicians from ‘Rock Steady’. Year 5

also work with The Royal Opera House *Create and Sing* project to learn about opera, develop a performance and perform alongside professional musicians in a local theatre.

It will be evident over time that the progress, knowledge and skills of pupils will increase between EYFS and Year 6. When planning, teachers refer to the DRET Music Year Group Expectations which ensure progression across the school. Progress in music will be assessed through a multi-faceted approach.

Part B: Co-curricular music

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time, including choirs, ensembles and how pupils can make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

We have The Music Room at THPA, where the space is dedicated to music learning both through individual lessons and ensemble work.

We work with the local music hub (NYMS) to offer peripatetic music lessons to students, the instruments currently on offer are violin, clarinet and recorder. This includes 1:1 and small group tuition. These are funded by parents termly in line with charging from the local music hub. NYMS offer a free instrument loan for pupils which supports them to progress their musicianship at home. Through these lessons children can progress with grades if appropriate. – RB to get in touch with local secondary schools to see who they use.

We also signpost families to our local music hub who offer County Music Ensembles, Saturday music schools and some holiday provision.

In school we offer students the opportunity to sing in the school choir and to take part in the music ensemble. These groups are free of charge to students.

We pride ourselves on having a school choir of boys and girls who rehearse on a Wednesday morning before school, expertly led by Miss Helen Lount who is part of the St. Oswald's Church Choir. The choir regularly perform in concerts and services, singing a wide range of repertoire. Our most recent highlight was singing with the BBC Singers!

Part C: Musical enrichment

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.

Enrichment opportunities are an essential part of the Music Curriculum which provides pupils with extended time to focus and deepen their learning. In school opportunities are free of charge for all children. Parental contribution maybe asked for to help fund travel and purchase tickets when visiting a theatrical production or concert.

We take pride in our singing assemblies each week and sing daily in all classrooms. We have close links with our local churches, and all children take part in key Christian festivals such as harvest, Christmas and

Easter. Each year the school choir sing in services at the Priory in Bridlington, Grimsby Auditorium and many more.

We use a multi-faceted approach to enrichment within Music at THPA:

- School music concert for KS2 pupils
- 'Carols around the Christmas Tree' performance for EYFS
- Weekly Singing Assembly - which covers a wide range of genres
- All charity and religious events have music as a key element
- KS1 Nativity in school
- KS2 Nativity at the local church
- Carols by Candlelight
- Y6 End of Year Leaver's Service
- Y6 Performance
- Singing in the community - such as care homes

Within DRET we attend:

- Trust Wide Concerts and Performances
- Carol service
- DRET Musician of the Year competition
- Primary Music Festival at a theatre, performing alongside professional singers and instrumental players
- Choral Festival at a theatre, performing alongside professional musicians and being led by notable conductors and composers.

In the future

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

To further enhance our excellent offer, our next plans are:

- To increase the number of students performing in the school choir
- Plan visits to be an audience at a wider range of musical events