



## Music Development Plan

### Overview

| Detail                                                              | Information                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Academic year that this summary covers                              | 2026–2027                   |
| Date this summary was published                                     | July 2026                   |
| Date this summary will be reviewed                                  | September 2027              |
| Name of the school music lead                                       | Evalie Gandre               |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music |                             |
| Name of local music hub                                             | Hertfordshire Music Service |
| Name of other music education organisation(s)                       |                             |

This document provides parents, carers, and our school community with a clear overview of music education at Fleetville Junior School across three key areas: curriculum music, co-curricular provision, and live musical experiences.

### **Part A: Curriculum Music**

At Fleetville Junior School, our music curriculum is designed to provide a rich and varied musical experience. Through a spiral curriculum, children develop practical skills, theoretical knowledge, and an appreciation of different musical styles. Our aim is for children to leave Year 6 with a solid understanding of key musical concepts, experience in playing real instruments, and the confidence to sing, improvise, compose, and perform.

To deliver a high-quality, balanced music education, we use the Charanga scheme. Lessons are taught by class teachers using interactive whiteboard

tools, guided videos, and visual rhythm prompts. Across all year groups, learning is built around these fundamental areas:

- **Listen and Appraise:** Exploring and evaluating a wide range of musical genres and styles.
- **Singing:** Building confidence, pitch accuracy, and vocal expression across all year groups.
- **Playing Instruments:** Developing practical performance skills on real musical instruments.
- **Improvising, Composing & Performing:** Creating original musical ideas and showcasing learning.

Beyond classroom teaching, pupils are encouraged to take up an instrument, supported by peripatetic lessons offered through the Herts Music Service.

### **Lesson Structure & Scheduling**

- Music is delivered in focused 60-minute weekly lessons, alternating in half-termly blocks with Computing.
- Weekly 30-Minute singing assemblies are held every week to teach vocal projection, pitch accuracy, rounds, and multi-part harmonies.
- Our Genre of the Month resources are presented during morning registration and post-lunch transitions. These ensure that the children listen to, appraise, and discuss a range of different musical genres, including Reggae, Classical, Mariachi, Gamelan, Synth-Pop, and Celtic music.
- Music history is directly integrated into our Reading curriculum. Every year group studies one classical composer (using the BBC 10 Pieces initiative, including Mozart, Beethoven, Chevalier de Saint-Georges, and Benjamin Britten) and one modern composer (including Aretha Franklin, Bob Marley, Buddy Holly, and Carole King) to learn about their lives, historical context, and musical styles.

### **Year 3–6 Instrumental Progression**

Every pupil at Fleetville learns to play tuned instruments during whole-class music lessons:

- **Year 3 – Glockenspiels (Stage 1):** Children learn basic beat/pulse, rhythm, and pitch using beaters on tuned glockenspiels. They learn

correct stick technique, simple melodic patterns, and basic rhythm notation.

- **Year 4 – Recorders:** Moving on from glockenspiels, Year 4 pupils learn finger placement, breath control, and how to read basic staff notation.
- **Year 5 – Ukuleles (Level 1):** Children progress to a stringed instrument. They learn holding posture, chord fingerings and basic strumming patterns.
- **Year 6 – Ukuleles (Level 2) & Digital Music Technology (YuStudio):** Year 6 advances this ukulele work. Alongside this, pupils use YuStudio on Chromebooks and GarageBand on iPads to mix loops, layer multi-track audio, and compose original soundtracks (e.g. Spooky Soundtracks).

### **Adaptive Teaching & Support for All Pupils**

- Teachers adapt lessons using Charanga's visual software, simplified symbol notation, and scaffolded instrumental parts so every child participates fully in practical music-making.
- Children who take private instrumental lessons outside of school are given extended roles - such as playing harmonising counter-melodies, leading small ensemble sections, or adding extra layers in composition tasks.

### **Part B: Co-Curricular Music**

Extra-curricular clubs, instrumental lessons, and pathways for progression beyond regular class time.

#### **School Choir**

Our extra-curricular School Choir is an extremely popular, high-uptake weekly club open to all pupils across Key Stage 2. The choir focuses on advanced vocal technique, multi-part harmony singing, and stage presence. The choir regularly performs at regional events, including singing at St Albans Abbey (Advent Service), performing at the Alban Arena (SAPSMA Concert), and singing in front of thousands at the O2 Arena in London (Young Voices).

## **Peripatetic Instrumental Lessons**

Through our partnership with Hertfordshire Music Service, specialist peripatetic teachers deliver weekly individual and small-group instrumental lessons during the school day. Children can learn woodwind, brass, strings, or percussion, with clear support for taking formal graded examinations.

## **Rocksteady Music School**

We partner with Rocksteady Music School to offer an additional, parent-funded, weekly band tuition club. Children form rock bands to learn electric guitar, bass, drums, keyboards, or lead vocals. Every band performs a termly showcase concert in front of the whole school and their parents.

## **Part C: Musical Experiences**

Whole-school concerts, year-group performances, assemblies, and external events.

### **Assemblies & School Performances**

- **Weekly Singing Assemblies:** Whole-school vocal practice developing a shared song repertoire across a variety of musical genres.
- **Instrumental Assembly Showcases:** Dedicated assemblies throughout the year where peripatetic and Rocksteady pupils perform solos or ensemble pieces to build confidence in front of their peers.

### **Parent Performances**

Every child at Fleetville performs live on stage to parents and the school community multiple times each year:

- Year 3 and Year 5 perform festive concerts for parents (with Year 5 performing at our local church as part of our community links). Year 4 performs a fully staged Festive Christmas Play.
- Year-group Learning Journey Assemblies give every class a platform to perform topic-linked songs and present original musical compositions to parents.
- Year 6 delivers a full end-of-year musical production featuring solo singing, chorus harmonies, and live drama.

## In the Future

Key priority actions to develop our music provision in upcoming years.

1. **Staff CPD on Musical Notation & Composition (2026–2027):** Staff training led by the Music and Curriculum Lead to train non-specialist class teachers on Charanga notation resources and GarageBand/YuStudio composition features.
2. **Whole-School Composition Project:** Introduce a whole-school composition challenge led by the Curriculum Lead. Pupils across Years 3–6 will use Chromebooks (YuStudio) and/or iPads (GarageBand) to compose original background music to accompany creative writing pieces produced in English.
3. **Whole-Class Djembe Drumming Workshops:** Fund external specialist percussion workshops (such as African Djembe drumming) to give whole year groups an intensive, hands-on workshop experience alongside their tuned instrumental curriculum.
4. **Community Outreach & Secondary School Links:** Expand choir performances into local care homes and build joint musical links with nearby secondary schools (such as Beaumont School), giving pupils opportunities to participate in secondary-led workshops and perform alongside secondary orchestras.

## Further information and useful links

- For details on how to sign up for weekly individual or small-group music lessons (via Hertfordshire Music Service) or Rocksteady band tuition, please visit: <http://fleetvillejmal1.greenhousecms.co.uk/Learning/Music-Lessons/>
- To explore our full Key Stage 2 music overview, including our step-by-step progression of musical skills, knowledge, and core terminology from Year 3 to Year 6, please visit: <http://fleetvillejmal1.greenhousecms.co.uk/Learning/Year-Groups/>
- National Guidance: The Department for Education publishes a helpful guide for parents and young people on how to get involved in music both in and out of school: [DfE Music Guide for Parents](#)
- Local Hub Partner: Learn more about our regional music hub by visiting the [Hertfordshire Music Service Website](#)