

Music development plan summary: Southridge First School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	Tuesday 1st September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	Friday 9 th July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Gendler-Watson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	North Tyneside
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

At Southridge First school we offer a varied curriculum which offers the children plentiful opportunities to take part in music lessons and experiences.

Each class teaches an hour of music a week. Teachers use Charanga, which is a website that the school pays for. This has the music curriculum embedded in it and ensures that the children all access music at the right level for their age and abilities.

Every child from year 1 to year 4 has the opportunity to work alongside Jennifer Bland for a half term every academic year. During this time, the children are taught specific skills based on singing or playing an instrument. In year 1 the children play musical games which enhances their singing ability. In year 2, the children have the opportunity to play the glockenspiel. Year 3 allows the children the chance to learn the ukulele while in year 4 they learn to play the recorder. This is taught as a whole class ensemble.

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.

The children at Southridge First School have the opportunity to also partake in music lessons outside of what we do in the classroom.

Children in year 4 can learn to play the violin, the viola and the cello. This is offered in small groups and is taught by Jen Bland and Scarlett Taylor. These lessons are charged, however in some cases are subsidised by the school if a child qualifies for pupil premium.

We also have a very well attended school choir which practices every Wednesday night after school. Pupils can join the choir from year 2 onwards. There is no charge for this. The choir has performed for care homes and at the Whitley Bay playhouse.

Part C: Musical events

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.

We have a weekly whole school singing assembly at Southridge First School which every year group takes part in from Reception to Year 4.

Throughout the course of the year, we hold several assemblies for parents and carers to watch, during which the children sing lots of songs. This includes Harvest festival, Christmas and Easter, as well as the Year 4 children performing in a leaving assembly in July.

Out of school hours, the school choir and any children who learn to play the violin, cello or viola perform for their parents and carers. There is a small charge for parents and carers to come and celebrate this performance.

The school choir also travel to local care homes to perform. Last year, we also took the choir to perform at the 'Summer Sing' at Whitley Bay playhouse.

Our year 1 children also took part in the 'mini sing' at the Glasshouse in Gateshead during the summer term and then performed for their parents here in school.

We have close links with our nearest middle school and many of former students return to Southridge to play in a musical concert for our key stage 2 children

Our choir performs for the parents and public at our Summer Fair.

In our key stage 2 Christmas Carol Service, children perform using glockenspiel and recorder skills that they have learned since Year 2.

In the future

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

In the future, we hope to continue to celebrate music here at Southridge First School. While we already offer lots of opportunities to sing, play and perform, we hope to become more involved in the wider community and offer the children the opportunity to perform even more than they already do. This will be encouraged by taking up the offers from our local music hub to perform in several different events across the academic year.

As part of our outdoor play initiative, we aim to have a wider selection of outdoor musical instruments available for the children to explore and play with during recreation time.