Music development plan summary: Anstey Junior School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 27
Date this summary was published	October 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Ellie Brown
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Emma Humphrey
Name of local music hub	Hampshire Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Music Mark

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.

All children at Anstey Junior School have the opportunity to take part in weekly music lessons linked to our topic-based curriculum. They also experience a wide range of musical opportunities across the school day.

The curriculum map incorporates units from Hampshire Music Service, which are aligned with the Model Music Curriculum. These practical, class-based music lessons are delivered by class teachers, other than in Year 4 where the children have term of tuition from specialist peripatetic teachers. The units taught provide the opportunity for children to learn to play tuned and untuned percussion instruments, explore different musical techniques and how to collaborate through composition, collaboration, rehearsal and refinement. All children have the opportunity to perform musical pieces to different audiences regularly. They gradually build knowledge of musical terminology and vocabulary, and how to translate these skills into written compositions.

Further to these class sessions, all children take part in a weekly music assembly. In these assemblies, children focus on listening to and appreciating music from a range of genres and singing to build up a repertoire of songs. Here, there are opportunities to sing in rounds and harmony, and to accompany with percussion instruments. Children who learn instruments either at or outside of school are regularly invited to perform, and all abilities are celebrated. We also have a school choir, Anstey Voices, who take part in lots of opportunities to perform rehearsed songs with live audiences within school and across our wider community.

Specialist music tuition is provided to every child by specialist music teachers from Hampshire Music Service. Currently this takes place during the Autumn term of Year 4, with children learning to play either flute, clarinet, trumpet or trombone in twice-weekly lessons and ensemble sessions. Families then have the opportunity to continue these lessons privately for as long as their child attends Anstey. In some cases, this is paid for with Pupil Premium funding to maintain accessibility for as many children as possible. Instruments are provided free of charge to all for the duration of the lessons; this scheme can be extended into Year 7, supporting those who wish to continue learning as they leave Anstey and move to secondary school.

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.

Anstey offers all children from Year 4 and above the opportunity to continue learning to play either flute, clarinet, trumpet or trombone in twice-weekly sessions, delivered by specialist music teachers from Hampshire Music Service. Each participant has one session with others from their year group learning the same instrument and then another ensemble session for all instrumentalists in the year. This combination supports them in learning their own part or piece before learning to play as part of a larger orchestra, and helps them to understand the structure and composition of more complex pieces.

All pupils are also offered the opportunity to participate in small group sessions with iRock School of Music. Here, they can learn an instrument of their choice, either drums, keyboard, guitar, bass guitar or voice. Weekly band rehearsals are led by a specialist coach; together with their coach, children choose a popular song to practise and learn by heart, ready for a termly performance to which their adults as well as the whole school are invited. The coach adapts each musician's lesson according to their next steps, supporting individual learners' progress, including some solo elements. In some cases, coaches support bands to write their own song, developing parts for each instrument and writing lyrics to fit, considering the structure and style ahead of their final performance.

Throughout the year, Anstey Junior School offers a wide range of free extra-curricular clubs to all year groups, including a variety of music groups led by the music lead with the support of other staff. These have recently included a weekly choir, Anstey Voices, who take part in performances within the school as well as for the wider community within Alton and Hampshire.

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.

Performance is embedded in the Anstey music curriculum. Every child has the opportunity to perform to their peers during and at the end of each unit of class-based learning; this may be their own class, the parallel class or children from a different year group, and means they sing to and play instruments in front of an audience every half term.

Children who attend teacher-led music groups, such choir or percussion groups, perform regularly during whole-school music assemblies, as do those who learn instruments outside of school. In some cases, different sections of a Beyond the Beat group performed separately before combining, demonstrating how pieces can be made up of several layers and how these can fit together to enhance each other. This assembly slot is a chance to showcase and celebrate the dedication and achievements of all, at all levels, and has been inspirational to many. As a consequence, the school has seen more interest in learning piano or keyboard, or joining percussion groups, with those who are already learning teaching their friends.

Further to this, throughout the year, all children have opportunities to perform to audiences from within school and the wider school community, including people they do not know. Those who learn instruments with iRock perform in a termly concert at school, whilst Beyond the Beat instrumentalists visit a local secondary to collaborate with students studying Music GCSE. All members of Year 4 participate in the Autumn term concert, along with those learners from Years 5 and 6, with subsequent terms being open to those who continue with the programme. These concerts are very exciting and inspirational experiences which they thoroughly enjoy. Not only can they share their own achievements but also see and hear what they could be doing in future; many are struck by the progression in skill, which is now open to them and is demonstrably attainable.

The music lead has also taken a singing group to participate in concerts organised by a local secondary school, involving collaboration with their Show Choir and groups from several other local primary schools.

Every year, each year group stages a musical performance or celebration to which parents, carers and other members of the wider school community are invited. Year 3 celebrate Christmas, singing a mixture of traditional carols and more modern songs mingled in with narrative and drama; this helps children to understand how music can be used both to tell a story itself and to enhance it. Year 4 learn songs for a Harvest assembly, which are accompanied by clapping rhythms and by playing percussion instruments; Year 5 build on this during their Easter assembly. A significant

part of the Year 6 music curriculum is then their Leavers' production. During this, individuals audition for singing roles and perform solos and duets as part of the

performance. Most participate as part of a small group, whilst all children join in for choruses and other songs. Again, different styles of music are used to tell and to enhance the story, and children experience the excitement and reward of collaborating, rehearsing, refining and performing. The Leavers' production is a high point of the year, and one which many children look forward to from Year 3 onwards.

At Anstey, staff understand that musical performance can be a daunting prospect for some. These children are identified early, during rehearsals, and supported accordingly. A range of opportunities is provided to enable all learners to participate with confidence, for example reading from a simplified score, sitting near trusted friends or adults or in a carefully-chosen place, joining in with a repeated chorus or watching a rehearsal to better understand the format before joining in.

In the future

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

The music lead will continue to review the school music provision to ensure planning provides thorough coverage of curriculum objectives alongside cohesive progression of skills and knowledge. They will also continue to monitor the delivery of this through observing teaching and learning, pupil conferencing, work sampling and parent feedback.

As part of this ongoing review, the music leader will audit the use of technology in music, ensuring a variety of instruments and technology is planned for and used throughout the year, and by all year groups, showing clear progression.

Further to this, they are committed to increasing the range of musical enrichment offered outside of school; investigating new opportunities for children to experience high quality live performances as well as collaborating with new groups. Preparations are underway for a performance at the local Christmas Lights 'Switch On' in the Autumn term and a visit from a local secondary Big Band, along with other potential events such as the Primary Prom and further cluster collaborations later in the year.

Inclusion and diversity are key threads throughout our curriculum at Anstey. The music lead will continue to extend the range of diversity seen within music at Anstey, focussing initially on reviewing the content of weekly singing assemblies to ensure children are exposed to and can access a wide range of genres and styles from different cultures.