

Music development plan summary: The Hyde School

The Hyde School is committed to providing a high-quality, inclusive and culturally rich music education that reflects both national expectations and the diverse community it serves. Music plays a central role in pupils' personal development, wellbeing and cultural understanding. A distinctive strength of the school's provision is African drumming, which is embedded in Year 4 to develop rhythmic skills, ensemble awareness and engagement for pupils of all abilities.

During the 2025–2026 academic year, all pupils in Key Stages 1–2 receive a minimum of one hour of timetabled curriculum music each week throughout the school year. Teaching follows a progressive curriculum, ensuring pupils develop skills in singing, listening, performing, composing and musical literacy. Staff work hard to ensure that they are using diverse and relevant role models when studying composers, allowing children to see themselves as musicians. Early Years provides a motivating entry point to music-making and all year groups support inclusion for pupils with SEND and EAL.

Pupils have access to a range of instrumental and vocal opportunities, including whole-class instrumental learning at KS2 and opportunities for small-group or individual tuition where available. The current offer is recorder tuition in Year 3, African drumming in Year 4, brass in Year 5 and violin in Year 6. This learning allows children to embed and build on skills of musical notation and the inter related dimensions of music such as pitch, tempo and rhythm. The school hopes to relaunch a choir open to all pupils, which will rehearse weekly and contribute to school, community events and wider community spaces such as local care homes. Appropriate space is provided for rehearsals, individual practice and secure storage of instruments.

The Hyde School ensures that pupils participate in at least one musical performance each year, including concerts, assemblies and cultural celebrations. This includes the Barnet Music Festival. All pupils also have the opportunity to experience live music at least once a year through visiting professional musicians, workshops or events supported by the local music hub. The school works in partnership with the local music hub BEAT and other cultural organisations to support instrumental tuition, staff development, progression routes and access to wider musical opportunities.

Looking ahead, the school plans to reinstate choir, broaden the instrumental offer and continue to invest in partnerships, resources and performance opportunities to ensure that music remains a vibrant and integral part of school life at The Hyde School.

Overview

Detail	Information
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Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	January 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	
Name of the school music lead	
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Barnet Education Arts Trust (BEAT)
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.

During lesson time, music at The Hyde School is taught as a timetabled curriculum subject, with all pupils in Key Stages 1&2 receiving a minimum of one hour of music every other week over a half term. The curriculum provides a progressive programme of singing, listening, performing, composing and musical understanding. Pupils regularly sing and play instruments during lessons, developing technical skills, musical literacy and confidence through practical music-making. The curriculum is designed to be fully inclusive, with adaptive teaching strategies, accessible instruments and additional support to ensure disabled pupils and those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) can participate and make progress alongside their peers. The school’s published music curriculum for each year group, including details of SEND support and accessibility, can be found at:

<https://www.thehydeschool.co.uk/page/?title=Music&pid=59>

Curriculum music is further supported through partnership working with the local music hub and online resources such as those from BBC Music and The London Philharmonic Orchestra, which provides guidance, resources and specialist input to strengthen teaching, progression and inclusion.

As pupils progress, there are opportunities to work towards recognised music qualifications and awards, such as graded music exams and music awards offered through external providers, supporting accreditation and progression beyond classroom learning. In addition to curriculum provision,

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.

Outside of lesson time, The Hyde School offers a range of music tuition and enrichment opportunities designed to support progression and enjoyment for pupils of all abilities. Pupils can access one-to-one and small-group instrumental tuition in piano, guitar and violin, delivered by specialist visiting music teachers, as well as large-group African drumming sessions. Tuition is offered on a termly basis, with clear information provided to parents and carers regarding costs. Where possible, subsidies and remissions are available, including support for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium, to ensure equitable access to music learning.

Pupils are able to take part in a variety of ensembles and groups. Ensembles rehearse weekly and provide opportunities to perform in school concerts, assemblies and community events. Participation in choirs and ensembles is encouraged for all pupils, with no charge or with subsidised costs where applicable.

Progression beyond lesson time is supported through signposting to after-school, weekend and holiday provision, including activities and ensembles offered through the local music hub and Saturday music centres. Pupils receiving instrumental tuition are supported to work towards recognised music qualifications and graded examinations, where appropriate. The school provides suitable spaces for individual practice and group rehearsals, including supervised use of music rooms before or after school. Partnerships with the local music hub and other music education organisations enhance the range and quality of co-curricular music, supporting progression, inclusion and sustained engagement in music.

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.

Across the academic year, The Hyde School provides a wide range of musical experiences that enable pupils to participate in, perform and enjoy music as both performers and audiences. Singing forms a regular part of school life through singing in assemblies, whole-school events and celebrations, ensuring that all pupils engage with music on a weekly basis. The school plans a yearly Winter performance, One Voice Concert, as well as showcases, in which pupils from across the year groups are involved, as well as the very popular Easter show, The Hyde's Got Talent! These events provide inclusive opportunities for pupils of all abilities to perform, while other pupils participate as supportive audiences, helping to build confidence, appreciation and respect for live music.

In addition to in-school performances, pupils are given opportunities to experience live music beyond the school setting at least once during the academic year. This may include trips to concerts, workshops or performances organised in partnership with the local music hub, visiting professional musicians or attendance at local venues. Where performances or trips involve a cost, the school aims to keep charges to a minimum, with subsidies and financial support available, including for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium, to ensure that all pupils can take part. The school makes excellent use of the free transport offered by London Transport to ensure the children can travel to music venues in town with no cost to families. Strong partnerships with the local music hub and other music education organisations support the delivery of high-quality musical experiences, broaden pupils' cultural experience and enable meaningful engagement with live music both in and out of school.

In the future

This is about what the school is planning for subsequent years. Further information (optional)

The Hyde School intends to implement a whole-school choir as a key element of its music provision, designed to be inclusive, accessible and representative of the school community. The choir will be open to pupils across designated year groups, with no prior musical experience required, and will provide regular opportunities for pupils to develop their singing skills, musical confidence and sense of belonging. Rehearsals will take place weekly outside of lesson time and will support participation in school assemblies, concerts and community events throughout the academic year. The development of the choir will be supported through curriculum singing, staff expertise and partnership working with the local music hub, ensuring high-quality vocal leadership and clear progression opportunities for pupils who wish to develop their singing further.

