

Music development plan summary

Bacton and Mendlesham Primary School

This is the music development plan for the academic year 2025-26 for Bacton and Mendlesham Primary School.

This plan sets out how the schools will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular provision and wider musical experiences. It also shows our links with the Suffolk Music Service/Hub and how we work collaboratively to enhance the experiences and provision on offer to our children.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Alice Schülen
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Suffolk Music Hub
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.

At Bacton and Mendlesham Primary schools we deliver Music education in three areas;

Curriculum Music

- One hour class sessions each week – using the KAPOW music scheme
- Termly performances/services
 - Autumn term – Harvest, Remembrance, Nativity and Carols
 - Spring term – Easter service, Spring whole school assembly
 - Summer term – End of year show for upper key stages and whole school end of term singing concert. WCET festival in collaboration with Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub.

Co-curricular provision

- Whole school singing assemblies – 20 minutes each week
- Instrumental tuition
- After school Choir club
- Lunchtime Choir club
- Support for Parents – Linking with Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub to embrace musical and vocal opportunities in the County e.g. play on music lessons, choirs and performing arts groups

Musical experiences

- School choir – opportunity to perform by opening school festivals, fetes and services
- External groups delivering performances in school – for example, Lunar New Year – Umbrella dancing, Holi Festival, Solo Musician performing, Boom whacker workshop, drumming workshop
- Visits and performances from local musicians
- Entrance and exit music of differing genres in assemblies
- Choice of music for assemblies – democratic vote each week by one class
- Use of music apps, for example Busy things
- End of term disco for both key stages

Part A: Curriculum music

This is what we teach in lesson time, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

We follow the KAPOW music scheme for all year groups at Bacton and Mendlesham. This scheme was specifically chosen as it provides in depth CPD for staff prior to each session.

A full version of both long term plans, which includes Music, is available on the curriculum page on the school's websites. We also provide a long term plan for Mulberry which can be found on the website.

- Music is directly taught for between 45 minutes and one hour each week in all classes.
- In EYFS, music is used daily for transitions, lesson starters and within interactions between staff and the children. Regular practice of music and movement in early years builds strong foundations for speech, language and literacy. Staff encourage children to express themselves through the exploration of music during independent learning time.

- In KS1 we explore the Kapow scheme and learn to use tuned instruments e.g. glockenspiels/hand bells.
- In KS2 children are given the opportunity to learn a tuned instrument. This offer includes the SEN KS2 class. Suffolk Music Service provides a qualified music teacher for an hour each week. All children take part in a collaborative concert with local schools in the Summer term. This includes learning an ensemble piece to perform in front of an audience.
- We work collaboratively with Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub. They provide advice, guidance and teaching staff for our tuned music lessons and a teacher for our after school club choir.
- A lunchtime choir club is also available for children to access.

Part B: Co-curricular music

This shows the 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.

At Mendlesham we have a sound garden accessible to all students throughout the year. This includes a mixture of tuned and untuned instruments and can be used during break and lunchtimes as well as part of lessons. We encourage the use of the sound garden using cross-curricular links in subjects like Science, Maths, English for example.

We run a weekly after school club at Mendlesham for Year 1 to Year 6. The choir was formed to provide the experience of a qualified singing teacher. Children are exposed to music played on a guitar and a piano in these sessions. The choir regularly perform in concerts, assemblies and festivals. (These sessions are funded for eligible PPG children).

We also run a weekly lunchtime choir club at Bacton for KS2 students. The choir was formed to provide an opportunity for children to share musical tastes, engage in singing, and develop a sense of community. The choir regularly perform in concerts, assemblies and festivals.

In lower Keystage 2, children take home a tuned musical instrument each week as part of their Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub lesson.

Children are offered play on music lessons each year. If the offer is taken, children are offered a smaller group tuition with their instrument. This is a service provided by the Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub and a small fee is payable by Parents.

Support for Parents looking for wider experiences for their children – help to buy instruments, joining choirs or bands. We work with the Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub and with musicians and groups within the community to explore wider opportunities.

Part C: Musical experiences

This shows the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

Across the school year at Bacton and Mendlesham we offer lots of Musical Experiences.

- Autumn term
 - Weekly singing assemblies
 - Makaton friendly songs – support for SEN
 - Democratic voting of choosing entrance music for assemblies – exposing children to wider musical genres and styles
 - Harvest Festival – performing to a large audience
 - Remembrance – visiting the Village church and performing readings and songs
 - Nativity – working in a large group utilising a stage. Learning dance routines, singing, wearing costumes and performing to a wider audience
 - Upper keystage 2 – Audience for dress rehearsal, open forum to give feedback, tips and celebrate younger children’s successes
 - Christmas Concert – a chance to sing some traditional hymns, fun celebration songs and use of tuned musical instruments
 - School disco

- Spring term
 - Weekly singing assemblies
 - Makaton friendly songs – support for SEN
 - Democratic voting of choosing entrance music for assemblies – exposing children to wider musical genres and styles
 - Easter service – learning traditional hymns and celebration songs
 - School disco

- Summer term
 - Weekly singing assemblies
 - Makaton friendly songs – support for SEN
 - Democratic voting of choosing entrance music for assemblies – exposing children to wider musical genres and styles

- End of year show for upper key stages – EYFS and lower key stages chance to be the audience for dress rehearsal, open forum to give feedback, tips and celebrate older children’s successes
- WCET festival in collaboration with Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub
- Whole school end of term singing concert – time to celebrate the school year, have fun learning new songs and sharing some school traditional classics
- School disco

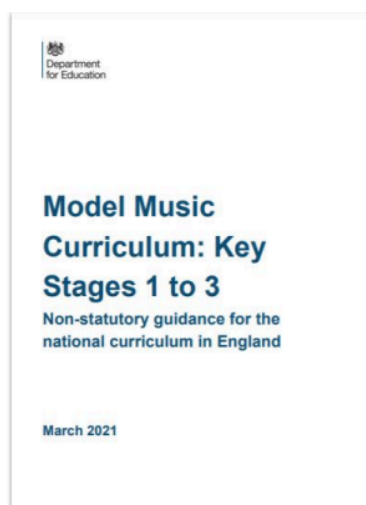
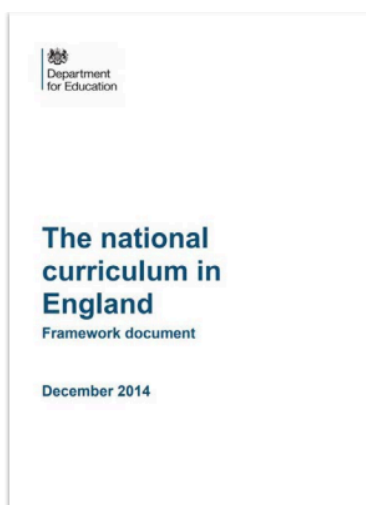
We also aim to offer....

- 1 x a year Theatre trip – fully funded for Eligible PPG children
- Visits from a local musician – Matthew Applegate
- Assemblies from Suffolk Music Service tutors - exposure to instruments not usually seen
- Musical workshops connected with RE curriculum – celebrating Holi, Lunar new year
- Exposure to different instruments via visiting workshops – boom whackers, African drumming

In the future

At Bacton and Mendlesham Primary Schools, we are always looking to develop and improve the Musical experiences on offer to our children;

- In the School year 2024-2025 – we moved to the new Model Music Curriculum – published in March 2021. We use the new curriculum strands from Kapow. This move ensures that we are defining progression in the strands of Notation and Creating sound. This move has embrace the changes from these documents;



It also enables us to continue to develop the musical journey for our children at Bacton and Mendlesham.

Our Music lead is also investigating;

- On-going CPD in the use of new Kapow music scheme
- Music in the outdoor environment (sound garden use)
- Online apps to enhance composition skills
- Connections with wider trust schools – working towards hosting a collaborative concert
- Connections with Trust high schools – GCSE music students
- Musical inclusion -
<https://www.nmhub.co.uk/files/2022/10/Inclusive-music-strategy-2020-21.pdf>
- Affordable Theatre trips
- Exposure to bands, groups, orchestra's

Further information (optional)

Norfolk and Suffolk Music Hub - <https://www.nmhub.co.uk/site/>

Sabine Sutton – Choir teacher

Busy things music app – supports;

EYFS

- Listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses.
- Watch and talk about dance and performance art, expressing their feelings and responses.
- Develop storylines in their pretend play.
- Explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo or in groups.

Keystage 1

- play tuned and untuned instruments musically
- listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music
- experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.