

# Music development plan summary: Eastlea Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Emma Beeston
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	As above
Name of local music hub	Music Partnership North
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady music school

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.

- From September 2024 our music curriculum will be informed by the [model music curriculum](#) (March 2021), which is non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 3 (and will be taught by tutors from Music Partnership North).
- In EYFS music is woven throughout their curriculum and in Reception is prioritised in adult directed sessions by a Music Partnership specialist.
- Pupils in KS1 and KS2 receive music tuition for two terms per year led by a music specialist on a carousel basis (this includes class based music and instrumental tuition and is purchased through a service level agreement with Music Partnership North at a subsidised cost of £6798.)

- In addition to this, Reception and KS1 classes have a weekly 20 minute hymn singing assembly.
- At Eastlea our curriculum music input is led by two tutors from Music Partnership north, focusing on the progression of skills and knowledge of the elements of music. In Reception/KS1 a 'building blocks' scheme is used to support early music development. In Key Stage 2 the pupils have a weekly input of 50 minutes (for two terms this year – previously this used to be for the full year) of class based music and/or whole class instrumental tuition (violins).

## Part B: Extra-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.

### Rocksteady music school bands:

- Children in Reception, KS1 and KS2 have the opportunity to join our Rocksteady bands which rehearse weekly on Tuesday mornings in the school hall. Instruments include electric and bass guitar, drums, keyboards and vocals.
- We currently have 4 bands in school – mixed year groups.
- This is an inclusive programme that is accessible to all pupils, supports wellbeing and contributes to academic progress.
- Children can work towards a 'Music performance in bands' certificate – an Ofqual regulated qualification from Rocksteady and Trinity College London.

### Singing:

- Children in KS2 have the opportunity to join our Singing Club led by a specialist tutor from Music Partnership North. The sessions last for one hour on a Wednesday after school and take place in the school hall.
- The singing group caters for a range of abilities and enthusiasm for singing is the only requirement to be able to join.

### Violin progression group:

- A group of 8 – 10 children in upper KS2 have the opportunity to further develop their instrumental skills on the violin by attending a half hour session with our instrumental tutor from Music Partnership North.
- The group is targeted at those who show a particular aptitude for music and allows them to practise skills in school which are then developed at home – with permission granted to borrow the instruments from school.

### Funding:

- Rocksteady provides weekly band tuition funded by parents. A monthly payment scheme arranged between parents/carers and Rocksteady is set up at a cost of £42.79 per month. Some pupils are supported via a school bursary scheme to be able to attend the sessions at a reduced cost.
- Our singing club is funded through a Service Level Agreement with Music Partnership North and costs the school £925 per year.
- The violin progression group is also funded via a separate Service Level Agreement with Music Partnership North and costs £974 per year.

*N.B. These SLA costs are subsidised by the Music Partnership as part of an early bird / long standing purchase deal.*

- Each Christmas all classes from Reception up to Year 6 have the opportunity to watch a pantomime at Newcastle Theatre Royal on our Christmas Golden Day. This is funded by school at an approximate cost of £2200 (with an additional £1000 for transport). Funds raised at our Christmas Fair by the Friends of Eastlea are used to support these costs.

## **Part C: Musical performances**

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.

### Singing:

- Use of singing to support learning for example phonics, timetable songs, MFL and across the wider curriculum.
- Whole school singing takes place weekly at the Friday assembly.
- Reception/KS1 singing practice weekly on a Monday.

### Music club concerts:

- Rocksteady bands perform to the whole school and parents of the children involved once per term on a Tuesday morning. The rest of the school enjoy the live music and watching their peers.
- Each term the KS2 singing club and violin progression group perform a concert to their parents/families on a Wednesday after school. This is a culmination and celebration of the work they have been doing the previous term and involves ensemble and sometimes solo performances.

### Other performances:

- Key Stage Christmas performances each December – this includes performances for the rest of the school and 5 performances in total for parents and other visitors.
- Year 6 visit the local shopping centre to entertain shoppers by singing Christmas carols each December. This is also a fundraising event for the class enterprise fund.
- The whole school from Reception to Year 6 visit the Theatre Royal to attend the pantomime each December.
- An end of Year 6 celebration leavers event takes place in July each year. The class perform a leavers song for parents, staff, governors and their peers.
- A group of Year 5/Year 6 musicians are invited to take part in the 'Cramlington Play Day' event in June which involves a day of instrumental/vocal rehearsals at the local secondary school and a performance to parents in the Hub at Cramlington Learning Village. This event used to take place annually – but has now been changed to every two years.

## **In the future**

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

### Music in curriculum carousel:

- In 2024-25 we are going to trial having more subjects as part of the Wednesday afternoon curriculum carousel. This means that the amount of music curriculum time is being reduced and we will need to monitor the impact that this has on the music work of the children as well as the progression/opportunities in other subjects.
- We have a new tutor for KS2 curriculum music and singing club in 2024-25. The impact of this will be reviewed and this may lead to changes in what we can offer in coming years (expertise in different areas).

### Sharing work with parents:

- We are looking for more opportunities to share the class-based music making with parents – and are looking at manageable and effective ways to record and share 'performances' of class based instrumental and curriculum music sessions.

### Opportunities for additional music making/live music:

- Opportunities sometimes arise for musicians to take part in additional performance opportunities and if these become available children will be

encouraged to take part, e.g. *Music partnership ensembles and choral events*.

- Any opportunities for theatre visits or music concerts will be explored to broaden children's experience

#### Pearl of Africa music workshop and concert:

- Our planned involvement with the Ugandan Pearl of Africa children's choir/dancers had to be cancelled this September due to issues with securing visas for the performers. We have expressed an interest in being part of this event in September 2025 and hope to bring a different kind of musical experience to Eastlea then – allowing children to explore another culture through music and dance, as well as performing as part of a concert for parents in the evening.

## Further information (optional)

Music Partnership North

<https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Music-Service.aspx>

Rocksteady Music school

<https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/>

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.