

Music development plan summary: Lee Mount Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 - 2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Rachael Whitton
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Rachael Whitton / Lisa Lockwood
Name of local music hub	Calderdale Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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 Lee Mount Academy, we believe that music is a powerful means of self-expression, creativity and personal development. Our vision is that every child will experience, participate in and enjoy music regardless of their background, starting point or ability. We aim to develop confident performers, listeners and composers who appreciate a diverse range of musical styles and traditions.

Music is delivered in partnership with Calderdale Music, whose specialist teachers provide high-quality curriculum teaching across the school. Classroom teachers work alongside specialists to develop their own subject knowledge and confidence, ensuring music remains a sustainable and valued part of the curriculum.

All pupils receive regular timetabled music lessons as part of a progressive curriculum built around performing, listening, composing and evaluating. Learning follows a spiral approach, allowing pupils to revisit and deepen knowledge, skills and understanding over time. Pupils learn through singing, instrumental performance, musical notation, improvisation and composition.

To broaden musical experiences and increase access to instrumental learning, pupils are now learning through a wider range of instruments including:

- Ukuleles
- Xylophones
- Recorders
- Untuned and tuned percussion instruments
- Voice and singing

In addition, Lee Mount Academy is introducing music technology as part of its curriculum offer. Pupils will engage in workshops and technology-based musical activities which develop creativity, composition skills and understanding of modern music-making.

Alongside practical music-making, pupils develop their listening, appraising and responding skills through weekly music assemblies. Children are introduced to a wide variety of musical genres, styles, cultures and historical periods, giving them opportunities to listen critically and discuss what they hear. Musical experiences are also carefully planned to enrich curriculum learning. Key Stage 1 pupils attend a live pantomime performance each year, providing exposure to professional musical theatre, while Year 3 and Year 4 pupils participate in a Roman-themed musical workshop linked to their history studies. These experiences help pupils develop a broader understanding of music and its role in storytelling, performance and culture. We are also introducing music technology workshops, enabling pupils to explore contemporary approaches to creating, recording and performing music.

Weekly music assemblies further enhance musical learning and provide opportunities for pupils to develop vocal technique, musical confidence and ensemble performance skills. Each term culminates in a performance opportunity where children share their learning with parents, carers and invited guests. These regular performances help pupils develop confidence, resilience and pride in their achievements.

The curriculum is fully inclusive and adapted where necessary to ensure all pupils, including those with SEND and disadvantaged pupils, can access and succeed in music.

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.

Music beyond the classroom is a growing strength of provision at Lee Mount Academy. This year we have successfully introduced a school choir and school band, both led by professional musicians from Calderdale Music. These ensembles provide opportunities for pupils with particular interest, enthusiasm or talent in music to develop their skills beyond curriculum lessons. The choir and band are open to pupils across Key Stage 2 and will continue to expand over the coming year. The school choir and band will rehearse regularly and perform at:

- School celebrations and assemblies

- Seasonal events
- Community performances
- End-of-term showcases

Through our partnership with Calderdale Music, families are also signposted to additional musical opportunities including instrumental lessons and local music centre provision. These opportunities support progression pathways for children wishing to develop their musical skills further outside school.

[Instruments - Calderdale Music](#)

Particular focus is being placed on identifying and nurturing gifted and talented musicians. These pupils will benefit from:

- Additional rehearsal opportunities
- Membership of the school band
- Performance leadership roles
- Access to enrichment experiences offered by Calderdale Music and partner organisations

The academy remains committed to ensuring that financial barriers do not prevent pupils from accessing musical opportunities wherever possible.

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.

Lee Mount Academy is committed to providing all pupils with rich and memorable musical experiences both as performers and audience members. Children participate in weekly singing assemblies where they learn and perform a wide repertoire of music, including traditional songs, hymns and contemporary pieces. As part of these assemblies, pupils are also introduced to a diverse range of musical genres, cultures, composers and performers. Children are encouraged to listen critically, discuss musical features and respond thoughtfully to the music they hear, developing their appreciation and understanding of music from around the world.

A significant development for 2026-27 is the introduction of termly performances for every class. Each class will perform to parents, carers and invited visitors at least once per term, showcasing the skills and musical knowledge they have developed. This ensures every child experiences performing for an audience throughout the academic year and supports confidence, communication and presentation skills.

Additional musical experiences planned throughout the year include:

- Weekly singing assemblies for all pupils.
- Harvest, Christmas and Easter performances at St George's Church.
- End-of-term performances and showcases for parents and visitors.
- Performances by the newly established school choir and school band.
- Live performances from visiting musicians and music specialists.

- EYFS and Key Stage 1 pupils attending a live pantomime performance, providing an opportunity to experience professional musical theatre.
- Year 3 and Year 4 pupils participating in a Roman-themed musical workshop, linking musical learning to their history curriculum while exploring rhythm, performance and storytelling through music.
- Opportunities to experience music from a variety of genres, periods and cultures through curriculum lessons and assemblies.
- Collaborative projects and performance opportunities with Trust schools and community partners.

We are also developing opportunities for children to engage with music technology through specialist workshops and digital music-making experiences. These opportunities will enable Year 6 pupils to explore contemporary approaches to creating, recording and performing music.

All pupils have opportunities both to perform and to experience live music, supporting the development of aspiration, cultural capital and a lifelong appreciation of music. This ensures that children leave Lee Mount Academy having experienced music as performers, listeners and creators.

In the future

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

Over the next two years, Lee Mount Academy aims to further strengthen its music provision through the following priorities:

Develop the Choir and School Band

- Increase pupil participation across Key Stage 2.
- Establish regular performance opportunities within the community.
- Participate in Calderdale Music and Trust-wide events.
- Build progression pathways for talented musicians.

Expand Instrumental Opportunities

- Increase access to ukuleles, recorders, percussion and xylophones.
- Introduce additional instrumental experiences where appropriate.
- Ensure pupils experience a broad range of musical traditions and styles.

Develop Music Technology

- Embed technology-based music learning across the curriculum.
- Work with specialist providers to deliver workshops.
- Introduce opportunities for recording, composition and digital performance.

Increase Performance Opportunities

- Sustain termly class performances across school.
- Expand opportunities for community and Trust performances.
- Develop pupil confidence through increasingly ambitious public performances.

Strengthen Provision for Gifted and Talented Pupils

- Create targeted pathways for pupils demonstrating musical aptitude.

- Provide leadership opportunities within choir and band.
- Increase access to enrichment projects and specialist opportunities through Calderdale Music and the Trust.

Further Improve Inclusion

- Continue to remove barriers to participation for disadvantaged pupils and those with SEND.
- Ensure all pupils have access to high-quality musical experiences, instruments and performances.

Through these developments, Lee Mount Academy aims to ensure that every child leaves primary school with a love of music, experience of performance, knowledge of different musical traditions and the confidence to continue their musical journey beyond school.