

# Music Development Plan summary

## Leigh Academy Oaks Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Sarah Bennoson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music	Aoife Mehigan
Name of local music hub	Kent Music

This is a summary of how our Academy delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, music outside lessons 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 Academy offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

### Our music curriculum

This is about what we teach in lesson time and how much time is spent teaching music.

#### **We believe that every child has the right to a music education**

We provide an inclusive music curriculum which ensures that all children have the opportunity to learn at least two musical instruments during their time at Oaks. We love singing! The whole school community comes together at least once a week to sing and this is highly valued by staff and children. Opportunities are created throughout the year for all children to perform in small and large groups to different audiences. Singing supports learning in other areas of the curriculum.

In music at Oaks, all children have the opportunity to:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions.
- Learn to sing and to enjoy singing.
- Create and compose music on their own and with others, including using technology.
- Have the opportunity to learn two musical instruments.
- Understand and explore how music is created.

#### **How we deliver music**

- Music is taught through a bespoke curriculum.
- This is based on the Model Music Curriculum March 2021.

- 30 minute class lessons follow the same core structure to cover the 3 key areas of music making - performing, composing, listening/appraising
  - 10 mins – musicianship games
  - 15-20 mins – core exercise
  - 5-10 mins – active listening activity
- Lessons are supported by Kapow resources and activities where needed.
- KS2 learn a musical instrument during music lessons
  - Y3 and Y4 recorders
  - Y5 and Y6 ukulele
- Opportunities are created for children to perform in class, to the whole school and wider audiences.
- 30 minute weekly whole school music assemblies take place. These teach singing for enjoyment, introduce and consolidate music vocabulary and include opportunities to listen to a wide breadth of music genres.
- Opportunities are sought for the children to experience live and recorded musical performances.

### **The impact of music at Oaks**

- Children enjoy expressing their creativity through singing and playing an instrument. They experience the enjoyment of music through listening, performing and composing.
- Self-esteem, confidence and well-being are developed alongside teamwork and collaboration skills.
- Children leave Oaks with a broad experience of music. The experience of playing instruments and performing in different contexts can be transferred and built on during their secondary education and beyond.

To read more and see our music curriculum please click [here](#).

To read the Model Music Curriculum published by the government please click [here](#).

## **Music outside lessons**

This is about opportunities for pupils to sing and play music, outside of lesson time.

### **Singing**

Lunchtime singing clubs run once a week for Years 1 to 6

Parents are informed about the clubs in modules 1, 3 and 6 but do not need to sign children up. There is no charge for the clubs.

- **Oaks Voices Choir** is for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.  
All children are welcome and need to commit by coming along and signing up to attend the club for at least one term. The Oaks Voices Choir enjoys singing

together and learning songs for performances. For example, the annual Choir Festival with other local primary schools and singing in Maidstone town centre to support local charities. The children have the opportunity to choose the songs we learn and also help lead singing in music assemblies.

- **Singing Club** is for children in Years 1 and 2.

All children are welcome and do not need to sign up. This is a 'drop in' club and children can come along as often as they like. We sing fun songs with lots of actions and moving around. We also make sure that children have time to run around outside before afternoon learning starts.

### **Recorder group**

This year we are very excited to be starting a recorder ensemble group for children in Years 4, 5, and 6 who have made very good progress in their class recorder lessons. These children will be invited to the club, which starts in Module 2, and parents will be informed.

### **Instrument lessons outside school**

Would you like your child to learn an instrument outside school? You can organise this through Kent Music at their Maidstone Music Centre which runs Monday to Thursday from 4pm-8pm at Invicta Grammar School. All details including how to enroll can be found on their website [here](#). Simply scroll down to the 'Apply for Lessons' button.

## **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.

### **Assemblies**

Every week we have a music assembly which includes singing together as a school. Each module, two classes will perform to the school during assembly. This gives all children an opportunity to share what they have been learning in their music lessons and have an experience of performing.

### **Celebrations**

In October, December and April we will be going to St Martin's Church for our celebration services. All children take part in singing special songs learnt for the event and families are invited to attend. Children in nursery and reception classes may record their performances to be shown during the celebration. This ensures all children have the opportunity to perform.

### **Festivals**

During the year we are joining local primary schools for three music festivals showcasing recorders, ukuleles and singing. Families will be invited to attend final performances or they will be videoed and shared.

### **Young Voices**

In February, Year 4 and Year 6 will be taking part in the Young Voices concert at the O2 arena in London. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to perform with hundreds of other children and also to watch performances from professional musicians and dancers.

### **Class performances for families**

All classes will be performing at our celebration services which are held at St Martin's Church. Check the key dates document for more details.

### **Royal Ballet and Opera**

This year we are incredibly lucky to have been chosen to work with the Royal Ballet and Opera as Cultural Champions. More information about how the children will be involved coming soon!

## **In the future**

This is about what we are planning for the future.

### **Instrument lessons**

This year we are going to be investigating ideas for whole class instrument lessons for Year 2. This could be the ocarina.

### **Visiting performers**

We are always looking for opportunities to invite professional musicians to perform in school for the children. We are hoping that the Kent Music roadshow will be able to visit us again this year. This is a great opportunity for the children to see instruments being played and also explained.

### **Community links**

We have already signed up to support Demelza house with their Christmas Carolathon and we will be looking out for other opportunities to work with our local community.

### **Recorder group**

This is a new adventure for us this year and we are hoping that it will continue.

## Further information

This year, we will continue our close work with Kent Music, who are our local music hub. If you want to read more about what they do, please [click here](#).

We are also supported by the Curriculum Advisors from Leigh Academies Trust.

The Department for Education has 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.