

Music development plan summary: Taywood Nursery School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Curriculum Lead: Jennifer Slater
Name of local music hub	Lancashire Music Services

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.

Our Maintained Nursery School Music Curriculum

Our nursery school is committed to fostering a progressive and inclusive music education that nurtures children's knowledge, skills, and understanding from the earliest stages. This is part of our Expressive Arts and Design Curriculum, which has a particular focus on Being Imaginative and Expressive, containing the sub-headings of:

- Singing
- Musical Instruments
- Dancing
- Drama and Role-Play
- Performance

Teaching Music

- Opportunities to explore musical instruments are available in the provision to access independently. Adults are skilled in delivering the knowledge and skills from our curriculum as children learn through play
- Children also have planned daily rhyme time
- Weekly sessions to teach musical understanding is taught weekly, and planned using our progression documents

Progression in Music Learning

- We have a clearly sequenced progression in musical development, focusing on listening, responding, performing, and creating.
- Children build musical understanding through daily rhyme time, with a structured progression in nursery rhymes across each half term. Progression in nursery rhymes can be found on our website in the Long Term Curriculum Plan.
- Musical experiences are designed to support development in pitch, rhythm, tempo, and dynamics, laying strong foundations for future learning.

Exposure to Musical Genres

- Each half term includes planned opportunities to listen to music from a range of genres, including classical, folk, and contemporary styles.
- Our curriculum is enriched by African drumming sessions, which support rhythm exploration and cultural awareness.
- Listening activities are paired with movement, storytelling, and expressive arts to deepen engagement and understanding.

Instruments and Resources

- Our provision includes a wide variety of instruments, enabling children to explore sound and develop performance skills.
- This includes a piano, a selection of percussion, and instruments from other cultures, such as African drums and handbells, supporting both musical diversity and cultural learning.

Inclusion and Access

- All music activities are designed to be accessible to children with SEND and disabilities, with adaptations made to ensure full participation.
- We use visual aids, sensory instruments, and differentiated approaches to support every child's musical journey.

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.

As a maintained nursery school, our curriculum is the starting point for exploring music for enjoyment and developing early skills, knowledge and understanding. Opportunities for music outside of education will begin in primary school.

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.

Part C: Musical Events

Our nursery school offers a vibrant programme of musical experiences throughout the academic year, designed to nurture children's confidence, creativity, and cultural awareness through performance and participation.

Regular Musical Activities

- **Daily Rhyme Time:** All children take part in daily singing sessions, supporting progression in musical learning and language development.
- **Singing songs linked to topic as a group or class:** Weekly opportunities to learn songs include group singing, helping children develop pitch, rhythm, and a sense of musical community.
- **Planned Listening Experiences:** Each half term includes opportunities to listen to music from a range of genres, including classical and world music, contrasting with modern and pop music.

In-School Performances

- **Pre-School Performances:** Children in pre-school participate in planned performances that support progression in performance learning outcomes, including singing, movement, and expressive communication.
- **Christmas and End-of-Year Shows:** These feature familiar songs and poems, with children performing for parents and carers. All nursery age groups are involved, with inclusive elements such as **sign songs** to support accessibility and participation for all.
- **Family Engagement:** Families from different cultures are invited to share musical experiences, songs, and instruments, enriching our curriculum and celebrating diversity.

Trips and External Musical Experiences

- **Burnley Youth Theatre Visit:** Children attend a live performance at Burnley Youth Theatre, offering a valuable opportunity to experience professional storytelling and music in a theatrical setting.
- **Visiting Performers and Storytellers:** We welcome musicians and storytellers into school throughout the year, providing interactive sessions that inspire and engage young learners.

Participation and Charging Information

- All musical events are designed to be inclusive and accessible, with adaptations made for children with SEND and disabilities.
- Parents and carers are invited to attend performances. These are free of charge.
- For some trips and experiences, parents are asked to contribute in part for the opportunity. No child will be excluded if payment is not received, particularly children who are eligible for pupil premium

Partnerships

As a nursery school, the local music hub does not support our sector and so access to specialist musicians and performers, as well as staff development is limited to what can be offered free of charge or within our curriculum budget.

In the future

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

Focus Areas for Development

1. Exposure to Live Performances: We will increase opportunities for children to hear instruments played live by professional musicians, such as guitar, violin, and percussion. These experiences will help children connect with music in a meaningful and inspiring way, and hear instruments played that they may never have seen before.

2. Broadening Musical Genres: Our curriculum will be enhanced to include a wider range of musical styles and traditions. This will include jazz, blues, folk, and music from different cultures, supporting children's understanding of diversity and global musical heritage.

3. Termly Performance Opportunities: We plan to introduce termly performance events, giving children regular opportunities to showcase their musical learning to peers and families. These will build confidence and support progression in performance skills.

4. Instrumental Exploration: We are exploring the introduction of new instruments into our provision, including tuned percussion and string instruments, to support children's musical development and offer hands-on learning experiences.

Timeline for Implementation

- These improvements will begin to be introduced from **Spring Term 2026**, with full integration planned by **Autumn Term 2026**.
- We will continue to evaluate and adapt our provision in line with the 7 features of high-quality music education, ensuring our approach remains inclusive, progressive, and engaging.