Music development plan summary: Cobden Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	James Parkins
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Michelle Smith
Name of local music hub	Leicestershire Music School
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Charanga

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-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 Cobden Primary School, we follow the Charanga Programme for the teaching of music at KS 1 and 2. Charanga is a music education and technology company, who have developed an online platform for the teaching of music.

Cobden Primary School have chosen to follow Charanga's English Model Music Curriculum Scheme, which is aligned with the National Curriculum for Music and the non-statutory Model Music Curriculum (MMC) Guidance published by the DfE in 2021.

This scheme provides clearly sequenced units and lessons with week-by-week support for each year group. This includes a clear learning progression, as well as engaging and exciting songs and resources to support every lesson.

The scheme follows a spiral approach to musical learning, with children revisiting, building and extending their knowledge and skills in small steps. Learning is consolidated and built up over time, increasing musical confidence and enabling them to go

further. Teachers can adapt their teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of the children they teach.

At Cobden, music is taught weekly using the above Scheme. Music sessions in KS1 are approximately 45 minutes in length and KS2 approximately an hour in length. In addition to this, year 4 pupils take part in whole class steel pan music tuition throughout the year (over 34 school weeks) which is provided by the Leicestershire Music Hub. The children aim to showcase their learning to an audience on a termly basis.

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.

In addition to the weekly music teaching, pupils have an opportunity to sing during KS1 and 2 singing sessions, which take place on a weekly basis. The children are introduced to and perform a range of repertoire to enhance their musical knowledge and appreciation. Often, this leads to either a performance for a festival, or a shared assembly of singing to showcase the learning.

This year, after school glockenspiel and recorder is available for pupils to join as an after-school club. This is led by a member of school staff and has often led to group performing to the rest of the school and the local community for example at the local Church and a local retirement home. Later this academic year, we are planning to create a beginner after school club for learning either the ukelele or recorder lessons using our Charanga Scheme.

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.

At Cobden, all pupil's in EYFS and KS1 take part in yearly Christmas performances. The pupils rehearse songs, learn lines and perform on stage to their peers in other year groups and also to parents/carers at performances.

The school have been lucky enough to have made links with Fairfield Primary School in Loughborough and receive visits (free of charge) from ensembles from the school. The group perform to Cobden pupils and share information about their particular instruments.

Due to Cobden's links with Loughborough Grammar School, we have also been invited to performances of their shows. Last year, year groups were able to watch a performance of Peter Pan.

Each year, Cobden plan either a visit to Loughborough Town Hall to watch the pantomime or invite a travelling company to perform at school. This means that all pupils can watch a performance which includes acting, singing and dancing. In January 2026, the KS2 will be watching a performance of Dick Whittington at the Town Hall.

At the end of every school year, our year 6 pupils learn and perform a play/musical to mark the end of their time in primary school. They are responsible for learning lines, creating props/staging, learning a variety of songs and rehearsing acting skills. They then perform to other year groups and their families.

In the future

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

Over the next few years, Cobden are looking towards creating more opportunities and links to widen the musical experiences for pupils.

Opportunities currently being pursued are as follows:

- Additional links with Leicestershire music hub, for example outside of school hours choirs/singing groups that parents can enrol pupils in
- Rock Steady, who are a leading provider of in-school band lessons. They provide weekly in-school band lessons that celebrate fun, individuality and creativity. They aim to support friendships and a shared love for music, whilst boosting social skills, wellbeing and confidence.
- As Cobden have recently joined Bradgate Education Partnership, we are also looking forward to joining in with the shared music offer available within the Trust group over the coming years
- Cobden are also hoping to participate in the Young Voices mass Choir performance in Birmingham this year (timeframe dependent) or starting in the 25-26 academic year.