



Music Development Plan Summary
Townfield Primary School



Vision

At Townfield Primary School, music is a way for children to express their emotions enjoyably and creatively. It plays an important role in personal development, our curriculum and the wider life of the school. At Townfield, we aim to provide opportunities for all children to create, play, perform, listen, analyse and enjoy music across a wide range of periods, genres and styles. We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community and aim to provide opportunities for children to use their musical skills, knowledge and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

As part of the Rainbow Education Multi Academy Trust, we apply our values, Excellence, Endurance, Friendship, Wisdom and Trust, to all our musical endeavours.

Overview

| Detail | Information |
|--|----------------|
| Academic year that this summary covers | 2025 - 2026 |
| Date this summary was published | September 25 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | September 26 |
| Name of the school music lead | Martin McNally |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | |
| Name of local music hub | |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | Rocksteady |

Part A: Curriculum music

[add a link to website music information](#)

Music is taught in class every week and is informed by the National Curriculum, and also draws from the model music curriculum (March 2021). Good progress is secured by incremental learning of the technical, constructive expressive pillars of music. Lessons are a minimum of 30 minutes in Key stage 1 and 40 minutes in Key stage 2. Music lessons are taught by the Trust music specialist and class teachers. Teaching is supported by specialist planning, and the *Sing Up* curriculum scheme of work. This musical learning is further supplemented by weekly singing in assemblies each week. Sparkyard is being introduced to support learning in EYFS and the wider curriculum.

Singing is embedded into the life of the school from early years. Music is performed in assemblies. All staff are becoming increasingly confident in teaching and supporting singing following CPD and using a range of support materials of quality

age-appropriate repertoire. Pupils have attended singing events organised by the Rainbow MAT.

Pupils with SEND participate and progress, supported by adaptive strategies and adapted instruments.

Throughout their primary music curriculum journey, children will learn how to play glockenspiels, ukuleles and other percussion within our music scheme. Playing various instruments, and using technology enables children to use a range of methods to create music, as well as how to read basic music notation and tablature.

Children in year 3 learn to play recorder throughout the year, embedding their knowledge of staff notation.

Part B: Co-curricular music

At Townfield, we also facilitate the possibility to sing, learn and play an instrument in a band. Which will perform to parents and children in the form of a concert every term. This in conjunction with our partners 'Rocksteady'

Part C: Musical experiences

Singing is a prominent part of school life. All pupils sing during school and class assemblies. Other school performances across the year include Nativities led by KS1 and EYFS and a narrated telling of the Christmas story accompanied by carols from KS2.

As a Forest School, Townfield also provides opportunities for 'music/singing' in the forest' on a weekly basis. This will see children from EYFS – Y6 participating for a timetabled session and will include songs for around the campfire, call and response and marching songs. Children are encouraged to shout their own responses and create new verses. Children are given musical opportunities to find a pulse, develop patterns using their bodies as a percussion instrument e.g. 2 claps 2 thigh slaps/ clicks, chest pats etc.

In addition, Townfield provides opportunities to experience the following:

1. Deep Listening & Soundscapes

The forest is never silent. These activities help children develop "aural awareness" by focusing on environmental sounds.

- **The "Sound Collector" Walk:** Children carry a "map" and mark where they hear specific sounds (e.g., a bird in the high canopy, a squirrel in the undergrowth, or the wind in the pines).
- **Echo Games:** Use the natural acoustics of the trees. A leader sings a short "bird call" or rhythmic phrase, and the group echoes it back, noticing how the sound travels differently through the trunks than it does in a hall.
- **Graphic Scores:** Children draw the sounds they hear. A long, wavy line might represent the wind; short, sharp dots represent a woodpecker.

2. Children can learn about timbre (sound quality) and pitch by constructing their own percussion from found materials.

| Instrument | Materials | Musical Concept |
|-------------------------|--|---|
| Tree Trunk Drums | Hollow logs, sturdy sticks | Resonance and volume. |
| Stone Castanets | Flat river stones or pebbles | Percussive rhythm and "clicking" timbre. |
| Nature Shakers | Dried seed pods, or hollow sticks filled with small grit | Dynamics (loud/soft) and texture. |
| Log Xylophone | Fallen branches of different lengths/thicknesses | Pitch (longer logs usually sound deeper). |

3. Songs & Movement

Nature-themed songs help children memorize biological facts through "musical mnemonics."

- **Educational Parodies:** Use familiar tunes like *The Wheels on the Bus* to teach tree biology:

"The roots on the tree grow underground, underground, underground..."

- **The "Continuous Cover" Round:** Sing a song about planting, growing, and harvesting in a round (like *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*) to mimic the endless cycle of the forest.
- **Animal Rhythm Mimicry:** Children use hand percussion or body percussion to mimic animal movements: a slow, heavy "thump" for a bear; a fast, light "patter" for a mouse.

4. Permanent Musical Installations

- **The Music Wall:** Fixing old pots, pans, and tuned pipes to a wooden frame or between two trees.
- **Outdoor Chimes:** Hanging different lengths of metal or bamboo from low branches to create a wind-activated soundscape

Pupils experience listening to a variety of live music. Visiting theatre groups perform and sing for KS1 and KS2. At Christmas, all pupils attend a live pantomime, experiencing yet another genre of music.

In the future

During the next school year our music development plan aims to achieve the following:

- embedding the *Sing Up* music scheme that ensures consistency and progression from EYFS
- continue to enhance and develop the singing by further CPD for staff, ensuring a range of age-appropriate repertoire available.
- introduce the whole class ukulele in the Year 5 curriculum.
- engage with the Singing Playgrounds project to further pupils as music ambassadors and music leaders, while also developing singing.
- Develop further links with the Music hub with the possibility of facilitating after school clubs.
- Continue to support the range of peripatetic instrument lessons on offer for small group or individual lessons.
- Develop further performance opportunities for our young musicians throughout the school. At Townfield we will provide a platform for our musicians who learn a musical instrument inside and outside school to perform for their peers.
- Enrich the pupils experience of live music and performing by taking part in large scale events such as at the Philharmonic Hall and ISing/ Young Voices
- Develop engagement in extra-curricular music for Pupil Premium and SEND children.