

# Music development plan summary: Thomson House School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	12.06.2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	12.06.2025
Name of the school music lead	Isabel Saunders
Name of local music hub	Richmond Music Trust
Name of other music education organisations	SingUp Ukulele Project ENO Engage Richmond Music Trust Singing Festival Richmond Music Trust Ensemble Day Barnes Music Festival Young Voices Pro Corda Festival

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.

At Thomson House, we believe that every child should have the opportunity to engage with the joy, wonder and sense of community that music brings through singing, instrumental playing and listening to a variety of great composers. We aim to nurture a love and enjoyment of music making and work in harmony with our school values of courage, kindness and curiosity. Learning through improvising, composing and performing enables the children to develop confidence, teamwork and resilience. They are also encouraged to express themselves with creative, articulate and emotional intelligence.

## Part A: Curriculum music

Music is highly valued at Thomson House, with every class receiving two weekly music lessons as well as a Singing Assembly. These are delivered by a specialist music teacher who provides a progressive and engaging music curriculum, with many cross-curricular links, that enables them to develop a knowledge and understanding of musical language and systematically build musical skills.

In **Reception** those skills are learning to sing and perform with confidence, feeling the beat in their bodies, recognising contrasts in music (fast/slow, loud/quiet, high/low) and experimenting with different sounds through their voices and percussion instruments.

In KS1 and KS2 we aim to follow the National curriculum, and work in harmony with the recent Model Music Curriculum.

### KS1:

- Use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes.
- Play tuned and untuned instruments musically.
- Listen with concentration and understanding to a range of high-quality live and recorded music.
- Experiment with, create, select and combine sounds using the inter-related dimensions of music.

### KS2:

- Play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts, using their voices and playing musical instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression.
- Improvise and compose music for a range of purposes using the inter-related dimensions of music.
- Listen with attention to detail and recall sounds with increasing aural memory.
- Use and understand staff and other musical notations.
- Appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality live and recorded music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians.
- Develop an understanding of the history of music.

As they progress through the school, they develop the ability to sing confidently in 3-part harmony, read and write music, increase musicianship skills through learning a variety of instruments and appreciate music from many different genres. They are also given many opportunities to express their creativity through improvising, composing and performing.

All children have access to tuned and untuned percussion instruments and from Year 2, they receive **whole-class instrument lessons**. Year 2 learn the recorder, Year 3 learn a string instrument (violin, viola or cello), Year 4 learn the ukulele, Year 5 learn to play in a Gamelan ensemble and Year 6 learn African drumming.

## 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.

### Music Tuition:

We have a thriving department of peripatetic music teachers who teach piano, violin, viola, cello, recorder, flute, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, bassoon, trumpet, cornet, trombone, French horn, ukulele, guitar, drums and singing. We encourage all KS1 and KS2 children to learn an instrument and many do. There are end of term recitals for those ready to perform.

For pupil premium children and those that claim Free School Meals, we offer a free music club and assistance with instrumental tuition.

Our music teachers aim to give a minimum of 10 lessons per term and there are different lengths of lessons available:

- 30 minute paired lessons (for beginner stage only)
- 20 minute lessons
- 30 minute lessons

We use various spaces for individual/group lessons, including a main music room at Upper School which has two smaller adjoining practice rooms. Halls and libraries are also utilised.

### Music Clubs:

There are many music clubs provided for children to pursue their passion for singing, playing or composing music.

- Lower School Choirs (Y1, Y2, Y3)
- Upper School Choir (Y4, Y5, Y6)
- Recorder Club (Y3)
- String Ensemble (invitation only)
- Wind and Brass Ensemble (invitation only)
- Ukulele Club (Upper School)
- Upper School Bands
- MTech Club (Middle + Upper School)

## Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as workshops, concerts, shows, festivals and trips to professional concerts.

Autumn	Spring	Summer
<p>- <b>All children:</b> Harvest Festival</p> <p>- <b>Year 1 Nativity</b>, supported by Reception</p> <p>- <b>Lower School Friday Carol Assembly</b></p> <p>- <b>Upper School Carol Concert</b> at St Mary the Virgin</p> <p>- <b>Music Recital</b> for children having individual music tuition</p> <p>- <b>Choir:</b> Carols on Sheen High Street</p> <p>- <b>Christmas Fair:</b> Community Carol Sing-a-long</p> <p>- <b>Y4 trip to the Barbican</b>, LSO Discovery Concert</p> <p>- <b>Y6 trip to the Royal Albert Hall</b>, Future Makers Concert</p>	<p>- <b>Y2 trip to the Royal Festival Hall</b>, LPO's BrightSparks Concert</p> <p>- <b>Y3 themed Spring Concert</b>, supported by Year 2</p> <p>- <b>Upper School</b> themed Spring Concert</p> <p>- <b>Music Recital</b> for children having individual music tuition</p> <p>- <b>Y5 Trip to Cadogan Hall</b>, Classical Roadshow's School Concert</p> <p>- <b>Y6 African Drumming</b> Workshop</p> <p>- <b>Upper School Choir:</b> Young Voices Concert at the O2 London Arena</p> <p>- <b>Upper School Choir:</b> Barnes Music Festival Schools' Concert at St Paul's</p> <p>- <b>Upper School Ensemble:</b> Pro-Corda Chamber Music Festival</p>	<p>- <b>Y3 trip to the Royal Festival Hall</b>, LPO's BrightSparks Concert</p> <p>- <b>Upper School Choir: Rose Theatre Concert</b>, Richmond Music Trust's Singing Festival</p> <p>- <b>Ukulele Club: Ukulele Festival</b> at The Exchange in Twickenham</p> <p>- <b>Y5 Gamelan Workshop</b></p> <p>- <b>Upper School Ensembles: RMT's Ensemble Day</b> at The Exchange</p> <p>- <b>Music Recital</b> for children having individual music tuition</p> <p>- <b>Y6 Production</b>, supported by the whole of <b>Y4 &amp; Y5</b> who form the Production Choir</p>

## In the future

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

- Whole School recording an album in Autumn term 2024
- Whole Class Samba workshops for Summer term 2025
- Whole Class Brass or Woodwind lessons for 2025-2026: discuss the possibility of this with the Head, governors and visiting music teachers