

Crosshall Junior School's Music Action Plan

Academic Year: 2024 - 2026

Date Summary was published: September 2024

Date Summary will be review: September 2026

Name of the school Music Lead: Melanie Hamilton-Peck

Name of local music hub: Cambridgeshire Music

Part A: Curriculum Music

Crosshall Junior School understands that music is a vital part of our curriculum and through our music provision our children will become more enthusiastic learners. The school recognises that learners are creative beings prior to their arrival at school and continue to have creative experiences during and outside the school day. Music lessons are currently delivered every other week derived from the Model Music Curriculum supported by Charanga Musical School in the Paxton Room (designated music room) or classrooms. You can find our curriculum outline [here](#). Our music lessons are focussed around listening and appraising; singing; playing instruments such as recorders, glockenspiels and a range of percussion instruments; and performing. All children are given the opportunity to perform individually, in small groups, as a class, as a year group and as a whole school during assemblies. Our school is partnered with Cambridgeshire Music whereby the music subject lead collaborates with organisations to ensure progression throughout the school as well as to deliver CPD to the wider staff. Other performances include the Year 3 Nativity, Year 5 Shakespeare and a Year 6 Leavers' Song, whereby the lyrics are written by the children of Year Six. In addition to this, year groups attend Performing Arts Assemblies, which takes place three times a term at a minimum.

Part B: Extra-curricular Music

Crosshall Junior School understands the importance of music outside the classroom and offers opportunities outside of the school day to extend children's learning. Children can attend CJS Choir Club where weekly rehearsals take place for performances during Celebration Assemblies and concerts for parents. Further to this, the choir performs in the community attending local churches and care homes. This year, the introduction of CJS Voices - an invitation only choir - will be on offer to extend the musicianship of those that are at a greater depth level. In addition to this, Rocksteady offers weekly band lessons, which develops musicianship, supports well-being and contributes to academic progress. These children perform termly concerts to parents and the whole school.

Furthermore, children have access to the Paxton Room during lunch times where they can rehearse their singing or use the Rocksteady equipment - an electric drum kit, electric bass, electric guitar and microphones - to further develop their practice. One-to-one lessons are also on offer including: drum lessons, piano lessons and guitar lessons. These children showcase their development in a winter and spring concert to parents in the hall. Lastly, Crosshall established the Arts Council, which has a representative from each class to help improve and create awareness of the creative arts across the school, including music. From this council, the Arts Passport was developed whereby children can achieve pledges (participating in a concert in the community, listening to a concert, composing a song etc.) to achieve different levels of certificates - bronze, silver and gold.

Part C: Musical Experiences

In the wider curriculum, Crosshall Junior School understands the importance of the music provision and that it doesn't end in the classroom. In September 2023, Crosshall finished their Artsmark journey and was awarded Artsmark Gold. This has allowed the school to reflect on our teaching of music, art, dance and drama and how these subjects are incorporated into everyday teaching and wider school life. The whole school participates in a Christmas Carol concert led by the CJS choir to parents and members of the public at the local church. Every year, the whole school and parents/carers watch our Year 3 children perform in a nativity, Year 5 perform a Shakespeare production and Year 6 perform their Leavers' song, which is always written by the Year 6 children. Every year, our CJS instrumentalists perform to parents in a winter and spring concert. Rocksteady provides the opportunity for children to work across different year groups within bands and ensembles, which perform to the whole school and parents/carers. Our CJS choir perform in a spring and winter concert to parents, half-termly Celebration Assemblies and travel to London to sing in the Young Voices Concert. All children rehearse and perform in half-termly Performing Arts Assemblies and through auditions, children can perform solos, duets or small group performances (song, dance, scene or poetry) to the whole school showcasing something they've been working on during their own time. Lastly, every December, the Parent Teacher Committee organises a live pantomime performance for the whole school.

