



Red Kite Special Academy Music Development Plan

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Music Lead: Jason Redhead (ISM Music Academy)

Part A - Curriculum

Music Sessions are taught in class by the class teacher and our Music Specialist. Our Music Curriculum, Charanga, uses a spiral, sequential learning approach where key musical concepts are introduced and revisited throughout the year, deepening pupils' understanding. This allows for gradual progression of skills, aligning with the National Curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum.

Our Music Curriculum explores singing/vocalising, listening, exploring, making music and composing and performing with music which breaks down further into sounds, beats and rhythms, actions and patterns along with dynamics of sound. This includes working with body percussion, singing and vocalisation, playing instruments and creating musical patterns.

Each pupil begins at their own starting point and gradually moves through the sequence of learning at their pace developing musical skills and being exposed to musical experiences.

Each class in Primary and KS3 has a music session with our Music Specialist weekly and the skills that are taught during these sessions are repeated within the enabling environment where the pupil can use those skills and demonstrate their understanding and independence of music through the activities planned by the class teacher. These skills continue to be planned for in the environments in the following term enabling our pupils to emerge, develop, secure and master their skills through revisiting and repeating the learning through various contexts and experiences.

Our pupils in KS4 and 5 can choose Music as an option. We offer the Bronze and Silver Arts Award and AQA Unit Award in Music. Pupils in Pathway 1 can choose Music Therapy as an option too.

Colourscape: Each class also has a weekly slot in our new Colourscape Room. Colourscape is a Sound to Light system that allows pupils of all ages and abilities to access the technology. Colourscape allows pupils with the slightest of movement to create music synchronised with coloured lights. Colourscape also allows pupils to compose music, record voices and create tracks.

World Music Day / Talent Show: World Music Day is a global celebration of music and we mark the occasion with exciting activities that bring the joy of music to every pupil. Each year, we invite a different external school or performance group to showcase a variety of music genres, offering our pupils a unique insight into diverse musical styles and cultures. In the music room, we create a special Rock Stage where pupils can pose like rock stars for fun photos. The day ends with a whole-school talent show, where pupils are encouraged to perform any talent they wish—from football tricks to playing an instrument. The talent show is an inclusive event that celebrates all abilities and gives every pupil a moment to shine.

Church Christmas Singalong: Each year, we celebrate Christmas with a special visit to the local church, where our pupils perform festive songs for their families in a joyful sing-along that embraces the spirit of the season. In the weeks leading up to the event, classes learn a range of festive songs, focusing on rhythm, timing, vocalisation, and teamwork. These lessons help bring the music to life while encouraging collaboration and creativity. Our Christmas performance is a chance for every pupil to shine—whether through singing, dancing, or playing musical instruments. It's also a valuable opportunity for

Part B - Co-Curriculum Activities

Musical opportunities outside of lessons take place daily through many forms. Music is used as cues to signify beginnings and endings to lessons and the pupils track the sound and identify that an action is to be carried out due to the cue. Key songs are sung through the day to support with meaning and identifying key times in the day – Morning song, hello song, break time song, tidy up song, washing hands song – all of these songs that our pupils listen to and internalise, support regulation, understanding and knowing the concept of time throughout their day. Music is used to support the learning of sensory stories. Beat and rhythm are the core of early counting so feature significantly in our number planning and lessons.

Upper Key Stages have a weekly assembly where the pupils are encouraged to sing together as an ensemble. We have a number of musical events throughout the year such as our "Big Sing" where pupils and families are encouraged to sing and dance together as an ensemble.

Big Sing and Dance: Our yearly 'Big Sing' is a joyful celebration of music, movement, and togetherness, bringing pupils and families together through song. Over the course of four weeks, our pupils learn five songs during music lessons, with opportunities to sing, dance, or play instruments—ensuring the event is inclusive and accessible for all. On the day of the Big Sing, families are invited to join us for a vibrant performance, sitting alongside the pupils to sing the songs out loud together. It's a high-energy, heartwarming experience filled with fun, laughter, and a shared love of music.

Young Voices: Every year we offer pupils in KS4 and 5 the opportunity to go to Young Voices in Birmingham.

pupils to build confidence as they perform in front of an audience, sharing their talents in a warm, supportive setting.

Christmas Care Home Tour: We are incredibly fortunate to take part in a mini care home tour each year, where a selected class learns festive songs and performs them at three local care homes in the lead-up to Christmas. This special day offers our pupils the unique opportunity to go on a trip and share their music in a new and unfamiliar environment. It's a heartwarming experience that not only brings joy to the residents but also creates lasting memories for our students. The way they connect with the residents—through smiles, music, and kindness—is truly beautiful, making it a meaningful and uplifting moment for everyone involved.

This is the most amazing experience for pupils to take part in a large-scale musical event in a concert hall.

Amazon's Got Music: Last year we were invited to take part in this event at the Derngate Theatre and our pupils had the opportunity to perform on the stage. We would love to take part in this event again.

Family Discos: Three times a year we hold a Family Disco after school where pupils and their families can enjoy music and dancing.

Musical opportunities

Assemblies	KS2,3,4,5 - weekly
Colourscape	Whole School - weekly
Dance Company	Key times throughout the year
Big Sing	Whole school and families- Summer 1
World Music Day / Talent Show	Whole School - Summer 2
Church Christmas Sing along	Whole School - Autumn 2
Christmas Care Home Tour	Key Classes - Autumn 2
Young Voices	KS4/5 - Spring 1

Future opportunities and development:

- Ensure Music through Dance is offered during the year.
- Plan more trips to the theatre taking advantage of SEN friendly performances.
- Build in a variety of music for World Music Day ensuring that this includes different genres and music from different cultures.
- Plan for pupils to experience music from other cultures when we have our *Up, Up and Away* whole school theme days each year.