

Music development plan summary: Dashwood Banbury Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Abbie Clemons
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Carly Bunn
Name of local music hub	Oxfordshire County Council Oxfordshire Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Pitch Up

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.

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.

Dashwood Banbury Academy: long term scheme for the music curriculum

<https://dashwood.academies.aspirationsacademies.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2021/01/Music-Knowledge-and-Skills.pdf>

Music is taught every term at Dashwood, with the intention that each child has 1 hour of musical teaching each week (6 hours a term). This includes singing assembly time and could be taught as: an hour a week; 2 hours every other week or whole music curriculum focussed days to complete a unit of learning.

At Dashwood we understand the importance the exposure of music plays in our lives both as a listener and a musician. We want to, therefore, support our children to be passionate, creative and curious appreciators of music and its valuable impact on their lives. With this in mind, our three whole school threads are woven throughout our music curriculum and daily practices ensure that our children experience a broad and balanced curriculum that deepens their musical knowledge, skills and well-being.

Our children will:

- Learn to sing and to use their voices to create and compose music on their own and with others.
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated.
- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions.
- Dashwood Banbury Academy is linked with Oxfordshire Music Service who provide whole class teaching of musical instruments. This happens with the Year 4 cohort of children every year where pupils have the opportunity to learn an instrument. Each child in Year 4 will have direct teaching from a music specialist for half of the year. Currently, pupils will develop their skill and knowledge in teaching of the ukulele.
- Pupils learned tuned instruments (glockenspiels and recorders) whilst learning at Dashwood Banbury Academy, through whole class teaching and this is mapped out across the years
- Pupils learn to sing through developing vocal techniques in a weekly singing assembly and through whole class teaching of singing in year groups, which is mapped out across the curriculum.
- Pupils can work to earning an 'Aspire Award' which is linked to our academy trust, where pupils work towards completing an individual passport detailing different enrichment opportunities.

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.

Summary:

- Link with the Oxfordshire music service to attend music tuition
- Link with the music service to attend Saturday school
- School choir runs throughout the year
- Whole school music competitions

- Access to outside music specialists that we promote
- Pupils who are learning instruments in school will have the option to loan this instrument and take this home to practise on. This means that they also have the opportunity to attend music school with The Oxfordshire music service on a Saturday morning. Here they can take the instrument they are learning in school and attend these sessions free of charge. If pupils wish to develop music skill and learn other instruments we direct pupils to The Oxfordshire County Music Service where they can sign up for lessons through their specialists.
- We also direct pupils to other local music specialists should they wish to learn instruments and parents arrange these directly through the specialist and then we will facilitate instrument lessons within the school day and find a space for these to happen in.
- We have 'Rock Steady' provision running in school weekly. This gives pupils who are signed up the opportunity to become part of a band. Parents can sign up to this through the Rock Steady portal and concerts are held 3 times a year.
- The academy choir runs throughout the year and pupils work towards specific events in the academic calendar. Some of these events are free for pupils to join and some of them have a charge depending on the event. Charged events can be subsidised where pupil premium eligibility is met. Events that the choir participate in are listed below, but not limited to:
 - Young Voices event (charged)
 - Children singing for children (not charged local event)
 - Christmas concerts (in school)
 - Summer fayre events (in school)
 - Concerts in local care homes
 - Concerts in the community raising money for local causes
- Pupils at Dashwood have the opportunity to showcase their musical talents in an annual competition to the rest of the school – 'Dashwood's Got Talent'.
- For pupils who play instruments outside of school, pupils will have the opportunity to join together and create a 'Dashwood Band' - with a short performance as an outcome.

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.

Years 1 – 6 have a weekly singing assembly. This is broken up in 2 halves to allow for pupils to work together as a 'choir' and to complete age appropriate musical activities and vocal tasks Years 1, 2 and 3 sing together and Years 4, 5 and 6 sing together. Within these singing assemblies pupils work towards goals and performances throughout the year such as; Harvest assemblies, Christmas Carol concerts, Easter performances.

In the academic year each year group has a performance that they work towards and this is shared with the rest of the school and parents and carers.

Nursery - A Nativity performance including song and percussion

Reception – A Christmas performance including song and percussion

Year 1 – A performance linked to a fairy-tale encompassing musical elements of song and percussion

Year 2 – A mid-year production that encompasses songs and dialogue

Year 3 – pupils share a performance using the recorders

Year 4 - Term 3 / 6 – pupils in this year group will share a performance demonstrating the skills they have learned when being taught by the music specialist

Year 5 – Class assembly sharing glockenspiels performance

Year 6: Term 6 – end of year production that encompasses songs and dialogue. A play is chosen to fit to the Year groups level of expertise and performance skills.

Pupils in Year 5 have the opportunity each year to attend a performance at our linked academy school, Wykham Park Academy. Here pupils attend as audience members and it is linked to secondary applications.

All pupils will experience a pantomime performance.

As we are linked to the Oxfordshire music service we are regularly invited to musical concerts in Oxford.

As an academy we have a great link with our local care home where we will go multiple times throughout the year to spend some time with the residents and share songs and performances with them.

In the future

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

Some areas around developing our music curriculum and offering at Dashwood Banbury academy in the future:

- Long-term planning shows some progression of musical skills, including some use of music technology. Clear goals are set for each age group. All staff involved in teaching music model and understand some musical vocabulary. (next step from pitch up music framework)
- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 and 2
- develop more music opportunities with music specialist teaching

Further information

Pitch up framework: Oxfordshire County Music Service:

<https://musichub.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools#:~:text=Pitch%20Up%20is%20a%20self.strenghths%20and%20identify%20next%20steps>.

A member of the 'Music Mark' service.

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/62bc1242d3bf7f292040d364/The_Power_of_Music_to_Change_Lives.pdf

Oxfordshire music hub support:

<https://musichub.oxfordshire.gov.uk/>

If your school is part of a multi-academy trust with a trust-wide music development plan, you may also want to include a link to any published information on this plan.