

Music development plan summary: Butleigh Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 / 2026
Date this summary was published	3.6.26
Date this summary will be reviewed	3.6.27
Name of the school music lead	Andrew North
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Somerset Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

The music curriculum in KS2 is largely taught by our specialist music teacher Mr North, who delivers a weekly one-hour music lesson in alternating half terms.

We have created our own KS2 scheme of work, refined over the past five years, which is informed by the Model Music Curriculum. Our scheme links closely with the topics covered in class. For example, in Spring 2026, Fox and Otter Class composed their own space-themed pieces inspired by the movie scores of John Williams.

We have purchased 16 mini keyboards for keyboard/piano lessons which are taught by Mr North. These are also used to support composition work, as they can be connected to Chromebooks and their associated notation & music production apps.

In Owl Class, curriculum music is taught by Mrs Shields, a trained musician who also performs in a brass band outside of school. Mrs Shields uses the Charanga music scheme.

In alternating half terms, Otter and Fox Class received whole class instrumental tuition from Somerset music.

By the time they leave Butleigh school, all children will have had high quality instrumental instruction in plucked strings, percussion and keyboard, giving them a firm foundation for their future musical development.

Part B: Co-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.

Private Guitar Lessons

Private Piano Lessons

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.

Every Wednesday, children and staff sing together in a singing assembly led by our specialist music teacher Mr North. We learn a broad range of songs from different traditions, cultures and time periods.

Recent songs taught include 'Sumer is Icumen In', 'Now and for Always (from the Lord of the Rings musical), the sea shanies 'Santiana' and 'The Wellerman', and 'I'm a Little Lizard' by Nick Cope.

Children learn songs both by ear and using music notation as support. We also learn songs in different languages. Songs taught over the past two years include the Spanish songs Al Pasar La Barca, Debajo De Un Botón and Las Hojitas; Iro Ye from Benin; Hava Nagila (Hebrew) and Mo Li Hua from China.

In the Spring of 2026, the whole school took part in a Wassail Project at the Somerset Rural Life Museum, which included traditional local songs.

Singing is at the heart of our Easter and Christmas celebrations, and Remembrance services. Our KS1 and KS2 school productions give children the opportunity to perform

in front of their peers and parents, and we will be holding a singing showcase at the end of the Summer Term of 2026.

In the future

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

Children are already introduced to a wide range of high quality music in school (for example, KS2 watched three Stravinsky ballets: The Firebird, Petrushka and the Rite of Spring, but budget permitting we would like children to experience more live music.

We also plan to give children more opportunities to share their own compositions with the wider school. By the end of the 2026/2027 year we aim to have had at least one composition / songwriters assembly where children will perform their own compositions in front of others, and / or showcase pieces composed on computers.

Termly class assemblies (where classes share their learning with the wider school) now include songs, and this is something we will continue doing.