



Music Development Plan: Blessed Robert Widmerpool

Overview:

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers:	2024-2025
Date this summary was published:	September 2025
Name of the music lead:	Jenna Cook
Name of local music hub:	Our Lady of Lourdes Music Service
Name of other music education organisations:	The Diocese of Nottingham School Singing Programme

Vision and Intent:

At BRW we believe that every young person should be able to experience music and to make progress. It is founded on the belief that music enriches individual lives as well as a school's wider community.

The music curriculum at BRW aims to support all pupils in their musical progression through the Key Stages. By offering a rich and varied musical framework that nurtures fundamental musical techniques alongside building musical knowledge, it offers a pathway towards mature musical understanding. Staff notation not only complements developing aural skills, improvisation, memorisation and composition, but also provides the opportunity for pupils to be taught music independently both in class and after they have left school.

Music as a subject is designed to introduce the next generation to a broad repertoire of music from the Western Classical tradition, and to the best popular music and music from around the world. The curriculum is clearly sequenced and ambitious approach, providing a roadmap to introduce pupils to the delights and disciplines of music, helping them to appreciate and understand the works of the musical giants of the past, while also equipping them with the technical skills and creativity to compose and perform.

Having the opportunity to study and explore music is not a privilege; it is a vital part of a broad and ambitious curriculum. Blessed Robert Widmerpool aims to provide a high-quality music education, to ensure every child develops a life-long love of music and musical performance.

How does Blessed Robert deliver high quality music provision?	• Weekly timetabled curriculum music lessons for Key Stages 1 and 2. • Music lessons are led by specialist teachers from Our Lady of Lourdes Music Service. Class teachers support these lessons to develop their music CPD. • Access to individual music lessons: guitars, woodwind, brass, violins. • A school choir in Year 4 and 5 – led by The Diocese of Nottingham School Singing Programme. • Class ensembles in Key Stage 2. • Annual Music Evening (Summer Term) to showcase our music provision. Parents and the wider community are invited to come and celebrate the learning that has taken place. • Half termly performances and showcases of class learning are shared with an audience and celebrated via the school website.
Part A	Curriculum Music
	At BRW we are committed to providing music lessons for all children of our children across the whole school. Our Lady of Lourdes Music Service support our weekly music lessons for children in Key Stage 1 and 2. Music lessons begin a revisit and review of previous learning which may be verbal or in written quiz form, in order to revise previous music sessions and commit knowledge to long-term memory. Each term, music teaching ends with a formal assessment to aid the teacher and children in assessing their understanding and knowledge. Objective Assessment Grids completed by the children as a self-assessment tool, help in this task also. There are children of widely different musical abilities in all classes, so suitable learning opportunities are provided for all children by matching the challenge of the task to the ability of the child. We achieve this in a variety of ways by: • setting common tasks which are open-ended, ‘low threshold, high ceiling’ and can have a variety of responses; • setting tasks of increasing difficulty The BRW Music Curriculum models it’s content and structure based on the advice of the Model Music Curriculum document published in April 2021. The structure of the curriculum identifies and includes aspects of: • Singing • Listening (Memory and Movement) • Musicianship (Pulse/Beat, Rhythm, Pitch) • Composition (At KS2, consisting of Improving and Composing)

- Instruments (Reading and Writing Notation)
- Performance Skills
- Evaluating and Appraising)
- The history of music
- Appreciating and understanding

Instruments: The following table outlines which musical instruments each year group will have the opportunity to play during their weekly lessons. The children will be taught how to play the musical instruments correctly and learn how to read musical notations appropriate to their year group. Half termly performances of their piece will take place and will be recorded and shared on our school blog.

Year 1	Glockenspiels Percussion
Year 2	Glockenspiels Percussion
Year 3	Recorders
Year 4	Toots
Year 5	Toots Doods
Year 6	TBC based on previous year group assessment.

Challenge and support: Those children with a particular interest or aptitude in music can be given the opportunity to extend their education in a variety of ways, for example, taking part in instrumental performances in assemblies and mass. Lessons are differentiated to meet the needs of all pupil sand Quality First Teaching Strategies are in place. Pupils experiencing difficulties can are given extra

	encouragement by working in a small group with the teacher or teaching assistant, have the task modified or work alongside a more musically able child. Class teachers support all music lessons provided by OLOL Music Service. The school is committed to taking learning outside where and when possible, including appreciating sounds of nature in the school grounds/at Forest School. Special Educational Needs: Music has a rare and unique ability to bring people together; music making can make a whole class, school and community feel connected to others and part of something bigger. The school ensures and celebrates the inclusion of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities leading to improved access and greater choice for all pupils to realise their creative potential. All children, whatever their ability, learn music in accordance with the school curriculum policy of providing a broad and balanced education to all children. Teachers provide learning opportunities matched to the needs of children with learning difficulties, and our work in music takes into account the targets set for individual children in their Provision Maps. Music therapy and Interactive Music sessions are used as a tool to support those learners with Special Educational Needs. It is used as a tool to can help children with communication difficulties, stress and anxiety. It also helps to promote turn taking, sharing and promote a love of singing together. High expectations are set for every pupil, whatever their prior attainment. Teachers use appropriate assessment to set targets which are ambitious. Potential areas of difficulty are identified and addressed at the outset. Lessons are be planned to address potential areas of difficulty and to remove barriers to pupil achievement.
Part B	Extra-Curricular Music
Co-curricular Music	At Blessed Robert Widmerpool, all Key Stage 2 children are offered the opportunity to study and musical instrument in one to one, small group or large group tuition. Parents who want their children to participate in the scheme pay the additional music lesson fees on a weekly or termly basis. Peripatetic teachers are used to teach violin, flute, clarinet, guitar and brass instrument lessons in school. This is in addition to the normal music teaching of the school, and usually takes place during normal lessons from which children are withdrawn for the duration of the instrumental lesson. BRW works closely with the feeder secondary school to work towards children achieving excellence in music by completing musical exams when and is appropriate. Pupils are able to hire musical instruments for these lessons. Pupil Premium children are provided subsidised lessons and instrument hire charges. There are a number of rooms and spaces around the school building where lessons take place as well as spaces for children and groups to practice.

Part C	Musical Experiences
	Musical experiences, performances and opportunities are woven throughout our whole school curriculum. Children are given the opportunities to perform in front of an audience on a regular basis. Our musical experiences planned for the current academic year are as follows: • Class assemblies give children opportunities to play instruments or sing to an audience of the wider school and community • Whole school singing during regular Masses. • Class Masses and liturgies • Class nativities – EYFS-Y2. • Advent celebration – Y4-Y6 • Christmas carols around the tree – Whole school • BRW Has Talent – Whole school • Music Evening – KS2 • Holy Week Celebrations – KS2 • The Musical – Y5 & Y6 • Open afternoon – Y4/5 choir Year 5/6 Musical: Summer Term: Year 5 and 6 will visit a musical stage show as part of their rehearsals and work on their end of year musical. They will have the opportunity to watch a live stage show to inspire them. Previous classes have visited stage shows in Nottingham, Manchester and London. Class Assemblies and Masses: All children at BRW are given many opportunities to perform to an audience of their peers, parents and the wider community through class assemblies. Children will regularly sing during Masses and liturgies as part of our collective worship time. Music Evening: The Music Evening will take place in the Summer Term. All children from KS2 are invited to take part in this event. Class ensembles will perform pieces which they have been learning in their weekly music lessons. Children who take part in private music tuition will perform pieces to the audience and the Year 4/5 choir will showcase pieces which they have been working on. Talent Show winners and runners up are also invited to perform during this evening. This evening is supported by the Our Lady of Lourdes Multi Academy Trust music teachers and The Diocese of Nottingham School Singing Programme. Charging: Many of our performances and showcases are free for parents and the wider community to attend. The Music Evening and Y5/6 Musical are ticketed events. There is no charge for Pupil Premium families and families with particular circumstances.

	In the Future
	• Explore opportunities for children to play in school events eg, mass. • Monitor and review OLOL Music Curriculum to ensure that it is inline with the BRW music curriculum. • Promote the learning of musical instruments across KS2 especially for our most vulnerable children including those classed as Pupil Premium. • Publish videos and photographs of whole class music performances on the school news website to celebrate learning. • Explore opportunities for children to access live music performances.