

Music development plan summary: Botley School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 2025
Date this summary was published	October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Jo Reid
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Music for Schools Foundation Oxfordshire Music service

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

The Botley School [Music Curriculum](#) is available on our school website. This includes an overview of the music curriculum for each year group from EYFS up to year 6. The curriculum is organised into three focus areas, one for each term: vocal music, instrumental music and composition. The focus on Listening and Appreciation is continuous throughout the year. The music curriculum and progression document is matched to the [Model Music Curriculum](#) for key stages one and two.

Music is generally taught on a weekly basis and timetabled as part of the wider curriculum with each class having at least a 45 minute music lesson each week. There are times when a longer session is required, for example, to give more time for composition work so where this is the case, music lessons may be blocked together in the class timetable.

In addition to the taught music curriculum, the pupils attend whole school singing assemblies on a weekly basis, led by the Headteacher, who is a music specialist and the music lead for the school. This ensures that all pupils receive an hour of music tuition per week.

In years 3 and 4, the pupils all learn the recorder as part of the instrumental offer, with focus terms on learning djembe drumming and playing glockenspiels and xylophones in years 5 and 6.

Where pupils have instrumental lessons, they are encouraged to bring their instrument to the class music lessons to be used within composition and instrumental work, as well as to accompany vocal work.

Listening and Appreciation is part of every lesson in the music curriculum. The school has organised a playlist of all the key music for each key stage based on the model music curriculum and added to this with other pieces that fit our scheme and our wider curriculum.

The school also use aspects of the [Charanga](#) online Music resource to support the music curriculum.

Part B: Extra-curricular music

The school works with individual instrumental teachers and the Music for Schools Foundation, to provide individual and group instrumental lessons. We currently offer brass, woodwind, piano and guitar lessons. Parents have the ability to request strings and percussion lessons based on demand using the Oxfordshire Music Service. Pupils are entered for instrumental exams at the discretion of their instrument tutor.

There is a school choir led by the Headteacher/music lead that meet on a weekly basis.

There is a woodwind and brass band meeting once a week with the tutor from the Music for Schools Foundation.

Part C: Musical experiences

All assemblies to parents involve performing songs, including Harvest, Christmas and Leaver's assemblies.

KS1 pupils perform a Nativity Musical performance annually.

KS2 pupils all perform Christmas carols at the Christmas assembly.

Year 6 pupils perform a musical in the summer term.

Year 5 participate in the Young Voices performances a Resorts World Arena, Birmingham each year.

The school choir participate in the annual Festival of Voices at Dorchester Cathedral, run by the National Association for Primary Education and participate in a carol evening at University College, Oxford in December..

The school introduced a Community Concert in the summer of 2024 which has become part of the annual calendar, at which the choir and pupils who have instrumental lessons are given the opportunity to perform. The concert also includes performances from members of staff, the parent body and the local community, including trained and amateur musicians. The concert is open to the public with members of the community buying tickets at the local library.

The school invites in professional companies and individual musicians to inspire the pupils, including a top class recorder soloist, who provided a demonstration and workshop for our year 3 and 4 pupils and a past pupil who, although in secondary education has completed her piano diploma and has won gold in international piano competitions.

In the future

In 2025 2026 we are planning to

- introduce percussion/drumming lessons to the music offer.
- incorporate more opportunities for the band and the instrumentalists to perform in assemblies throughout the year.
- Introduce more workshop opportunities for our pupils in school.