

Part A: Curriculum music

Aldington Primary School has a well-structured music curriculum, with each class receiving specialist music teaching throughout the year. This approach ensures that the majority of the music curriculum is covered, with additional opportunities for music learning provided through teacher-led lessons, assemblies, and performances across the academic year.

Next steps:

- Explore opportunities to integrate music across other subject areas, making meaningful connections and reinforcing musical concepts in different contexts.
- Investigate ways to enhance the specialist music teaching, such as providing regular professional development for the music lead or class teachers to strengthen their subject knowledge and pedagogical approaches.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Aldington Primary School has a vibrant co-curricular music programme, which includes peripatetic music lessons delivered by external providers, as well as a school choir. The school also ensures that all pupils are involved in performances for key events throughout the year, such as Harvest, Christmas, and Easter.

Next steps:

- Consider expanding the range of co-curricular music opportunities, such as introducing instrument-specific ensembles (e.g., brass, strings, woodwind) or offering more diverse musical genres (e.g., world music, rock bands).
- Explore ways to increase pupil participation in the school choir, such as through targeted recruitment, providing additional rehearsal time, or offering incentives.
- Investigate the possibility of establishing a music technology club or workshop, where pupils can engage with music composition, recording, and production.

Part C: Musical experiences

Aldington Primary School provides its pupils with valuable musical experiences, including an annual visit to the Young Voices concert at the O2 Arena for Years 5 and 6, and performances by the school choir at a local venue for the "Carols by Candlelight" event. Additionally, all children have the opportunity to perform at the local church twice a year. Every child has an opportunity to perform on stage across the year. This is through the Nativity, Year 3/4 production and Year 5/6 production.

Next steps:

- Consider organising more frequent performance opportunities for pupils within the local community, such as at care homes, community centres, or local events, to further develop their confidence and showcase their musical talents.
- Explore the possibility of arranging educational visits to professional music performances or workshops, allowing pupils to experience high-quality live music and gain inspiration.

In the Future

Aldington Primary School has several exciting plans for the future development of its music provision. These include organising school choir performances at a local old people's home, arranging a whole-school trip to see a pantomime performance, and taking Key Stage 2 pupils to London to see a West End show. Additionally, the school has planned a steel drumming workshop and a Diwali workshop for the current academic year.

Next steps:

- Consider expanding the range of musical workshops and cultural experiences, such as inviting musicians from diverse backgrounds to share their musical traditions and lead interactive sessions.
- Explore opportunities to collaborate with local music hubs, schools, or cultural organisations to provide more varied musical experiences for pupils, such as joint concerts, festivals, or music-themed educational trips.
- Investigate the feasibility of establishing a school-wide music festival or celebration, where pupils can showcase their musical talents and the wider community can engage with the school's music programme.