

# Park Hill Junior School

## Music Development Plan

Academic year covered	2025 - 2026
Published	September 2025
Review	August 2026
Name of Music Lead	Peter Upchurch
Name of local music hub	Croydon Music and Arts

### 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

Music at Park Hill Junior School is a vital part of our curriculum and is taught throughout the school by enthusiastic and skilled teachers. Children are given the opportunity to listen and appraise, compose and also to perform their compositions. During their learning at PHJS all children will have had the opportunity to learn instruments, read music, take part in performances and extend their curiosity about music.

Our curriculum allows the children to:

1. experience music through listening, appraising and performing.
2. develop their knowledge of musical language, notation and genres.
3. practise their skills in playing instruments, both as an individual and as part of a group.
4. start to develop composition skills around rhythm, melodies and group compositions.

Teachers use the customised Charanga scheme to support planning and delivery of music lessons which enables all learners to make progress and is linked to the curriculum, school community and wider world. Lessons are adapted to enable all children to make progress and support children with additional needs. There is also scope in lessons to challenge and stretch children who already have a developed musical knowledge and skills.

Children have 45 minutes to an hour of music per week. Each year group focuses for a term on learning one particular instrument. We have started to successfully use the YuMu studio to enable children to access, mix and compose music in a digital space.

Children attend a weekly music assembly where music is listened to, discussed in the context of the wider world and collective singing of a variety of songs. These are taught using the Young Voices choir songs and Pop UK resources.

Annual events that children can join in with to practise their musical skills include:

- ❖ Whole school Christmas performance
- ❖ Spring concert - instruments for solo or ensemble performance
- ❖ Year 6 end of year show
- ❖ Park Hill's Got Talent
- ❖ iRock end of term performance
- ❖ Choir performances at different events over the year

## Co-curricular music and musical experiences

This is about the other opportunities offered by the school for children to take part in musical activities outside class lessons in clubs, one to one instruction or ensemble groups.

All children attend the weekly music assembly as mentioned above where communal singing is taught. A range of songs are sung and this includes time to learn songs for specific performances such as the

Christmas performance and the different events that the choir will perform at.

Year 5 and 6 choir runs for Autumn and Spring terms after school where children learn to extend their singing skills and range of songs known including mashups, multiple part songs and solos. This choir takes part in the Young Voices concert at the O2 arena and the CSMA (Croydon Schools Music Association) performance at the Fairfield halls.

On site lessons delivered by peripatetic teachers include two piano teachers, drums and guitar. The teachers encourage the children to aim towards taking graded music exams in their chosen instrument and many children achieve several levels in their instrument.

Children are also able to sign up to the iRock group where they are taught to play instruments in a band setting so that they can play together, keep time and recall song structure through playing a range of modern songs. The iRock bands perform at the end of each term. This is attended by parents as well as some classes in person or virtually via internal google meets shared for teachers to have the performance on the screen in class.

## In the Future

This is about what the school is planning for the future of music at Park Hill Junior School.

- Refine and improve our schools music curriculum.
- Build up a bank of instruments that children have access to a wider variety of instruments to use in music lessons.
- Ensure that all teachers are trained and supported in the delivery of high quality music lessons.
- The lead teacher to attend CPD on leading choirs and multipart singing.
- Access to music lessons for an increased percentage of disadvantaged pupils.
- Increase the number of opportunities for children to experience professional musicians either on site or school trips.

## Further information

Reference: Music Action Plan 2024-2025

Visit the Croydon Music and Arts website for information on local music opportunities for young people.  
<https://www.croydonmusicandarts.co.uk/>

Sign up for iRock: [iRock enrolment information](#), and [iRock website](#).

For peripatetic music teachers for Drums, Piano or Guitar during the school day please follow [this link](#).

Greenshaw Learning Trust: <https://www.greenshawlearningtrust.co.uk/>