Music development plan summary: Chevening (St Botolph's) CE Primary School

This is a summary of Chevening's Music Development Plan for 2025-26

In line with the national plan for music education, Chevening's approach to high-quality music provision includes:

- Timetabled curriculum music lessons for children in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. In KS1 & 2 the lessons are usually timetabled on a weekly basis.
- Access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice via the Kapow scheme, enhanced by BBC Ten Pieces, Sing-Up and other resources.
- Our school choir and vocal ensembles for special occasions (e.g. O2 Choir).
- Our school Performing Arts Group.
- A dedicated Music Room for individual lessons and smaller group lessons/ practice and access to the Hall for larger scale rehearsals and practice;
- Regular performances include our annual individual class performances to parents and peers; the annual EYFS and KS1 Nativity performance; the annual KS2 Christmas performance; termly whole-school services/performances in the Church. Special community performances include singing to residents at local care and residential homes, at local venues/attractions (Chevening House, Tesco, Coolings and Coblands Garden Centres, Sevenoaks Main Square and Trafalgar Square in London
- Opportunities to enjoy live performance: recent showcases include guitar and drumming by Music teachers and groups; our own pupils' performances on piano and drums.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	November 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Alex Robinson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs Lisa McLean
Name of local music hub	Sevenoaks Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Sevenoaks Primary Schools Partnership;

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.

To read in more detail about the provision music at Chevening Primary School, please visit our music curriculum page on our website, which is constantly being updated.

Music is an integral part of our curriculum at Chevening. It is taught as a discrete subject within each class every week and is informed using the Kapow scheme. This scheme supports a 'spiral curriculum' in which the same skills and knowledge are revisited again and again within each year group but with increasing depth. Children participate in a range of musical experiences which aim to help them demonstrate an understanding of rhythm and pitch and learn how music is structured, as well as learning technical vocabulary for these elements. As the children's confidence builds, they will enjoy the performance aspect of music. Children will experience listening to music from different cultures and eras and be able to share their own responses to these different genres.

Music lessons run for 40 minutes. Music lessons are further supplemented by the use of other valuable resources such as Sing Up and the BBC Ten Pieces which staff also use to enhance other subjects and to create a calm environment. At Chevening, Music lessons are led by class teachers and teaching assistants.

Music lessons are evidenced in class 'Music Memory Books'. Children are invited to reflect and evaluate their music lessons each week. These are shared with children staff, parents and governors and have proved extremely effective in raising the profile of music across the school. They have given children a voice in which to express their own feelings towards their music lessons.

In addition to weekly music lessons, we also join as a whole school for a weekly singing assembly lasting 20 minutes. We learn, rehearse and perform songs from a range of different genres, periods of history and from different cultures. During the weekly singing assembly, children are also invited to perform to in front of the whole school on their chosen instrument or are given the opportunity to perform a song or ensemble they have been working on as a class within their weekly music lessons. Local musicians are also invited in to provide live musical moments for the children to enjoy throughout the year.

After weekly lessons of 40 mins, a performance for peers, staff and parents enables the children to polish their practice and gain confidence in sharing their new skills with others.

During the year, there are many opportunities to present both singing and ensemble performances from music lessons and whole school songs to both parents and the wider community at Harvest, Christmas, Easter and the end of term. These performances take place in school, at our local church or in the local and wider community.

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.

Our Performing Arts Group comprises Key Stage 2 children who meet after-school to work on a musical play each year. They provide live entertainment to the school and their families through dress rehearsals and performances, which are much loved.

O2 Choir: Key Stage 2 children meet each week in the autumn term to rehearse the selection of songs in readiness for the spring term concert. This is a huge performance and enables our children to experience the thrill of performing in a national venue, along with thousands of other singers and celebrities.

Our Key Stage 2 Choir rehearses during a lunchtime and performs in school, church and beyond! Their repertoire includes songs for different seasons, events and themes and they enjoy sharing their love of song in local venues including care homes, supermarkets, garden centres, Sevenoaks Festival and also in London's Trafalgar Square as part of the Christmas season.

Where parents are keen for their children to learn to play an instrument, we are eager to support this. Currently, we have lessons for individual/pairs of children for drumming, guitar, piano and recorder, which is less extensive than in previous years where children had violin, flute and trumpet lessons. Any desire to learn an instrument is fully explored; we would love to have a band/orchestra/ensemble to perform and also to lead worship.

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.

Singing plays a central part of many school events and activities; we express our emotions, aspirations and responses to our personal, school, local and national events, celebrations and commemorations through music.

As a church school, music is at the heart of our daily worship, with modern, traditional and 'assembly banger style' hymns and songs sung and listened to by all. We enjoy music and song from different cultures, including multinational worship leaders, South African choirs, Irish folk groups and traditional choristers. Some of our own pupils will play their instruments at the start or end of Worship or for special events (MacMillan Coffee Morning). Sometimes live musicians lead worship (guitar/piano) which adds to the experience. In good weather, we can be found singing together outside on the field or in the 'hills and valleys' of our playgrounds. Often the children will be involved in choosing songs to sing in school worship or in church services. We take our love of music and singing to the church for all-together services with our families and friends at St Botolph's Church. There, parents, Governors, Trustees and congregation enjoy the children's singing, sometimes joining in with congregational songs/hymns, or listening to the whole-school, individual classes, choir or Performing Arts Group. We usually gather at Church for Harvest and Christmas celebrations, as well as end of term services. Traditional elements, including a solo/duet entry to church are quite spine-tingling for all! In September 2024, a new service was added – Back to School Sunday – with an opportunity to connect families and school together through worship.

Each of our classes take responsibility to plan and lead one act of worship through the year, focusing on a particular theme. The performers' parents are invited to join the school for the service, which usually includes a performance by the class, as well as collective singing.

During our Wednesday Singing AoW, we provide opportunities for children to play their instrument Infront of a live audience, The children sign up to take part. We also enjoy a 'pop up' worship band that come together and play their instruments a few times a term during a singing AoW. Children that do not play an instrument are invited to play percussion.

Annual panto group visits provide all the children with opportunity to listen and join in with a very different genre of music, including live and recorded material. With performances by different groups, there may be one or two shows and the Nursery may be able to join in. Usually, the PTFA fundraise to cover the cost of this event.

All children in Class R, 1 and 2 are involved in the annual KS1 Nativity in school. The dress rehearsal performance is keenly anticipated by Nursery and Key Stage 2 classes and the parents flock to enjoy two performances, featuring the children's singing, dancing and narration. There is no charge for attendance; one performance is recorded for parents to purchase.

The KS2 Christmas Celebration is held in St Botolph's Church, so that all Key Stage 2 families can attend. The different classes, choir and individual children provide a celebration In music, song and word, often around a particular theme/focus, including

traditional carols for parents/grandparents to join in the festival. Again, there is no charge for attendance, so that everyone can join in.

Timeline of Musical Events 2025-2026

September

- Back to School Service – The school gathered with Bishop Simon at St Botolph's Church and performed a few of our favourite hymns.

October

- Class 1 led worship – 'Courage and Perseverance' – performed a song to whole school and parents.
- *Whole school, individual class singing performances and choir performance at the school Harvest Festival held in St Botolph's church to parents and wider community.*

November

- *Class 5 led Act of Worship – Remembrance day to the whole school and parents.*

December

- *Class 6 Advent class led Act of Worship singing performance to whole school and parents.*
- *KS2 Christmas Choir performed at school fair, Cheshire Home, Trafalgar Square, and Sevenoaks Bligh's Meadow.*
- *KS1 Nativity – 8 songs performed to whole school and parents*
- *KS2 Nativity – individual class performances and whole key stage songs performed to parents and carers.*
- *End of Term Service at St Botolph's Church – whole school singing performances as well as individual key stages and KS2 choir.*

January

- *Key Stage 2 O2 choir performed at Young Voices Choir at the O2 London*

February

- *Class 2 led worship - They learnt a new song which they shared and performed to the school and parents.*

March

- *Easter service in St Botolph's church – whole school songs and hymns performed to parents and local community. KS2 choir performed a song and individual Key stage performances.*

April

- *Class R led worship – performed a song in front of whole school and parents.*

May

- *Class 4 led Worship – performed a new song to whole school and parents.*

June

- *Whole School Singing AoW Worship Band*

July

- *Performing Arts Show – The Wizard of Oz*
- *End of term service at St Botolph's Church – whole school singing performances and other hymns.*

Timeline of Musical Events 2026-2027 (so far)

September

- 'Back to school Sunday' service at St Botolph's church – whole school sang songs to congregation.

October

- Harvest festival at St Botolph's Church – whole school sang hymns and songs to parents and other members of congregation from local community. KS2 sang a song.

November

- Worship Leaders – Remembrance Act of Worship
- Class 5 led worship – performed a song to whole school and parents.

In the future

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

In subsequent years, we will continue to develop children's composition skills and the notation of this by planning more regular opportunities to showcase to both the whole school and parents, what each class have been exploring within their music lessons.

We are currently investigating a wider range of musical instruments that we could offer for private tuition at Chevening.

We will continue to explore exciting opportunities for our children to perform outside of school through our local music hub and in the community. We would love to provide our children with more opportunities to watch live music performances and develop a strong pupil voice. Furthermore, we will continue to provide our staff with CPD to continue to develop their confidence and subject knowledge.