

# Music development plan summary: Abacus Belsize Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miriyan Sikkens
Name of local music hub	Camden Music Hub

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.

*Abacus uses Charanga Music scheme as a starting point for musical tuition at Abacus.*

- Music is taught weekly by class teachers in years 1-6.
- Music is covered throughout the EYFS curriculum through independent learning opportunities, songs and rhymes, supported by Charanga.
- Songs are at the heart of each music lesson
- In addition to music lessons, years 5-6 have specialised violin tuition weekly. Children in years 5&6 are able to take their violins home to practise skills outside of school.

#### **Charanga- what is it?**

Charanga's English Model Music Curriculum Scheme is aligned with the National Curriculum for Music and the non-statutory Model Music Curriculum (MMC) Guidance published by the DfE in 2021.

This Scheme provides clearly-sequenced units and lessons with week-by-week support for each year group. There are lesson plans, assessment documentation, a clear learning progression, as well as engaging and exciting songs and resources to support every lesson. Key Learning and Outcomes with 'I Can' statements are provided to be used alongside assessment grids.

Our Scheme follows a spiral approach to musical learning, with children revisiting, building and extending their knowledge and skills incrementally. In this manner, their learning is consolidated and augmented, increasing musical confidence and enabling them to go further. Teachers can adapt their teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of the children they teach.

### **Students with special educational needs**

- All children participate in music lessons and children with additional needs are supported individually.
- Interventions, where required, are short-burst and children with additional needs are not excluded from music lessons.

**Our music curriculum scheme can be found here:**

<https://charanga.com/c/1356530-schemes-and-scheme-builder-overview/1370757-english-model-music-curriculum-scheme>

## **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.

- All classes will perform in a music assembly at the end of the school year.
- Abacus takes part in the biannual Camden music performance at Royal Albert Hall and KS1 Camden performance.
- Children have the opportunity to join a choir club when it is offered, and families in receipt of the pupil premium grant have the option to select this as one of their free club provision options
- Individual children have access to additional Tuition through Camden Music and Born to Boogie tutors.
- Children use recorders, ukeleles, xylophones and violins in their music lessons in addition to a range of percussion instruments.

## **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.

- Children take part in a weekly singing assembly. This academic year we are working on 6 songs that link to our THRIVE values: team player, honest, resilience, inclusive, valued, empowered

- Next academic year, Abacus will again be taking part in the Camden music performance at the Royal Albert Hall in Spring term. This is a biannual event.
- All children will have a music performance assembly in the summer term where they will showcase their learning from the year.
- All children will take part in a Nativity play (KS1) or musical play (KS2) in Autumn Term. All classes will have singing and drama elements for their performance.

## In the future

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

In the following two years, Abacus hopes to:

- Increase musical vocabulary in children's learning
- Increase confidence in playing instruments
- Develop staff knowledge of the wider music programme
- Increase lesson length (currently children have one 30-45 minute music lesson and 15 minute assembly/ week).
- Further develop opportunities to see live-music performances as part of our curriculum enrichment.

## Further information

Please find more information about the Camden music hub here:

<https://camdenmusichub.com/>

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.