

Music development plan summary: Burlington Junior School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 – 2027
Date this summary was published	9.7.26
Date this summary will be reviewed	9.7.26
Name of the school music lead	Katherine Cleaver
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Natalie Yendole
Name of local music hub	Kingston

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.

Music is highly valued at Burlington Junior School. It is approached with energy and enthusiasm by all. Through listening to, and engaging with, an extensive repertoire of music, children develop their understanding of music and its place in the wider world.

All children have a weekly one-hour music lesson, taught by a specialist music teacher. Listening, composing and performing are the three main strands of music teaching, and lessons incorporate numerous opportunities for singing and the use of instruments. During their time at school, every child will have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument alongside their classmates, currently being the recorder in Year 3 and the ukulele in Year 4. This year we will be introducing djembe drumming in Year 5 and revisiting the ukulele in Year 6.

At the end of each unit of music there are opportunities to perform to the rest of the school, showcasing our new skills. In every year group, there is at least one performance to parents during the school year, including excerpts from Carmen the opera in Y5 and the Y6 production in the summer 2. We work in partnership in

partnership with Kingston Music Service, local secondary schools and our Infant School. We seek performance opportunities for our pupils where possible, especially within the local community.

Access for All

- Scaffolded resources for staff notation and composition
- Mixed ability groupings
- Clear modelling
- Consideration as to where pupils are working in the classroom
- Inclusive Choirs and other extra-curricular activities - all pupils have the opportunity to join

<https://www.burlingtonj.kingston.sch.uk/page/?title=Music&pid=176>

Part B: Extra-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.

Burlington Junior School offers so many fantastic musical opportunities for our pupils. We have two flourishing choirs, a school orchestra and the opportunity to learn a wide variety of instruments in individual lessons (please arrange through Kingston Music Service). Worthwhile performance opportunities are plentiful, within the school and wider community.

Individual Lessons

Kingston Music Service offer peripatetic lessons to individuals and small groups on site during the school day. The instruments children can learn vary from guitar to saxophone to piano. Children are enthusiastic and enjoy this opportunity. Parents approach Kingston Music Service directly to arrange these lessons for their children.

Musical Ensembles

Upper School and Lower School Choir

Our school choirs regularly perform at the Rose Theatre in Kingston, and have also taken part in the Young Voices Concert at the O2 Arena in London, with thousands of other children! We are also invited annually to sing carols to members of the public at John Lewis in Kingston as well as seasonal events within the local community.

Orchestra

All pupils who have reached grade two and/or are able to read sheet music are welcome to join our school orchestra. Sessions take place weekly and are led by a school governor. The orchestra is comprised of a wide variety of instruments with pupils from Years 3 – 6. There are opportunities to perform to the school and parents throughout the year.

Burlington's Got Talent

Pupils are encouraged to share their musical talents with the school community through 'Burlington's Got Talent'. We invite children to record a video of them playing an instrument at home which is shared in assemblies in school to rapturous applause. We have found this to be successful in encouraging our more hesitant performers to share their talent.

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.

Pupils at Burlington Junior School have regular opportunities to perform as an ensemble through upper and lower school singing assemblies. These take place weekly and are led by a specialist music teacher.

In addition to this, there are a number of opportunities to experience music throughout the academic year:

- End of unit performances to the rest of the school (all pupils).
- Christmas concerts at the end of autumn term (all pupils).
- Year 6 production.
- Year 5 Carmen performances (summer term).
- Choirs perform at John Lewis, Bentalls, Home for the elderly, the Rose Theatre and the O2.
- Opportunities to watch music performances from local secondary schools and other individuals/groups (all pupils).
- Year 3 recorder performances to parents (spring term)
- Year 4 ukulele performances recorded via Google Classroom.

In the future

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

Our aims in 2026 - 2027:

- To maintain our ambitious music provision at Burlington Junior School.
- To review music resources, teaching spaces and 1:1 lesson spaces in our new school building.
- Introduce chance to learn the djembe drums, in Y5.
- Further develop listening to music in other languages, especially through the song request system.