Music development plan summary: Edward Francis Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Amy Vinnicombe
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	As above
Name of local music hub	Greater Essex Music Hub: Essex Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	NA

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.

The curriculum map for music at Edward Francis Primary School can be found in full here. It is informed by the model music curriculum but has been reviewed and adapted to meet the skills and needs of the pupils at our school, taking into account the outcomes of units of work and staff/pupil feedback. Pupils in every year group are given a full range of musical opportunities in weekly lessons including:

- Instrumental work
- Singing
- Composition and improvisation
- Music history
- Music technology

We subscribe to the online music package from the Greater Essex Music Hub, which gives us access to Charanga units of work. Music can be taught as a stand alone subject or in a cross-curricular way to support the learning in other subjects.

Pupils in Year 4 benefit from a whole year of instrumental tuition through the music hub's Play-It scheme. Through this programme of class tuition, pupils learn to play the recorder as an ensemble, to read musical notation and have opportunities to perform to an audience.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Pupils at Edward Francis can opt into a range of musical opportunities outside of the curriculum to progress their musicianship instrumentally or vocally:

Peripatetic Lessons

Pupils from Year 2 can sign up to music lessons through the Essex Music Hub. At this time, we offer lessons in guitar, piano, keyboard, flute and recorder. These lessons can be 1:1, paired or small group ensembles.

Instrumental loans are available through the music hub. Pupils who receive Pupil Premium funding are offered discounted music tuition and LAC/PLAC pupils can sign up for free music lessons.

Choirs and Clubs

There are many opportunities during their time at Edward Francis Primary School that pupils can be part of a choir.

- Year 2 - Infant Music Festival Choir
- Year 6 - Christmas Choir
- Years 5/6 - Junior Music Festival Choir

Ensembles

Pupils in years 5 and 6 can sign up to be part of recorder ensembles once they have completed their year of instrumental lessons in year 4. These sessions build on their skills in music theory and performance and can also lead on to learning new instruments such as the tenor recorder or flute.

Part C: Musical experiences

Pupils are given many opportunities to enjoy, listen to and perform music outside of lesson time.

Assemblies

Music is an integral part of our daily assemblies: pupils are given opportunities to listen to a wide range of genres and artists and sing together to enhance the community feel of the school. Music chosen for assemblies reflects the theme/festival/time of year or the school values of positivity, respect, effort, partnership, aspiration, resilience and enjoyment.

The weekly music assembly gives pupils the opportunity to request songs they enjoy singing, to sing together as a whole school and learn some key musical theory (for example, finding the pulse) KS2 pupils that learn instruments are given the chance to sign up to perform in music assembly, which enables pupils across the school to be an audience and learn how different types of instrument work.

Productions and Concerts

In every year group during their time at Edward Francis, pupils will work towards a production or concert which is performed to an audience over a number of days:

EYFS - Christmas concert

KS1 - Christmas production

LKS2 - Spring Production

UKS2 - Summer Production

Workshops

The school organises a range of workshops to engage pupils and give them a wide range of musical experiences throughout their time at primary school. These have included:

- World Music Workshops (African drumming, samba, didgeridoo)
- Conductive Music STEAM workshops
- Songwriting with The Songwriting Charity
- Rap workshops

Parent Association Events

The school's Parent Association organises theatre trips at reduced costs to see local pantomimes and West End shows.

In the future

The main objectives set out in the School Development Plan for Music for 2026-27 are as follows:

- To review and update the Music Curriculum map
- To continue to provide a music curriculum and extra-curricular provision that engages pupils, promotes our school values and generates a love of performing.

Alongside these objectives, the school is researching ways to give our pupils the opportunity to watch live music by making connections with local secondary schools and keeping informed on the local music hub offer.

Music is regularly monitored by the subject leader and a new action plan will be written in accordance with our School Development Plan cycle in March 2027.

Useful Links

Department for Education - Music Education: information for parents and young people

Essex Music Hub - A Parent's Guide to Music Lessons