Music development plan summary: Cedar Children's Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	1st September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	1st September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Lily Siu
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Dynamics (Medway)
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Sing Up, Medway Music Association, Kent Music

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

Our curriculum

Music is taught in every year group from Nursery to Year 6. Years 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 follow the Sing Up Music scheme of work, which is mapped to the National Curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum. In Year 3, pupils learn to play the recorder as a whole class, and we aim to arrange additional support from a specialist tutor.

Each year group follows a termly unit of work, usually made up of 3–6 lessons of around 40 minutes. Lessons cover singing, listening and appraising, composing, improvising and performing, using our voices, untuned and tuned percussion and recorders.

Early Years

In Nursery and Reception, music is part of Expressive Arts and Design. Children sing songs and rhymes, move to music and explore sounds and instruments, both in focused sessions and through continuous provision indoors and outdoors.

Supporting all pupils

Lessons are adapted so that every pupil can take part, including pupils with SEND – for example through visual prompts, modelling, adapted instruments and different ways of responding. Pupils who need further challenge are given more demanding parts and opportunities to lead.

Knowledge organisers are used alongside lessons to reduce cognitive load and help pupils recall key vocabulary and information.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Weekly keyboard and cello lessons are offered to pupils who would like to learn an instrument, taught by a music teacher in small groups.

We plan to offer further opportunities during the year, such as music clubs (for example iRock or Dream Academy) and additional recorder tuition for Year 3, working with Dynamics (the Medway music hub) and the Medway Music Association. Details will be shared with families once these are confirmed.

Families can hire an instrument, such as a cello, through the Dynamics Instrument Scheme by completing a consent form. Details of any charges for lessons or instrument hire are shared with parents when places are offered; families who may need support with costs are encouraged to speak to the school office.

We also share information about ensembles, courses and holiday activities run by Dynamics and the Medway Music Association, so pupils can continue to develop their music outside school.

Part C: Musical experiences

We aim to hold a regular singing assembly so that all pupils sing together each week.

Music is celebrated across the school, with links made to other subjects and a music display board sharing pupils' learning.

We are planning for pupils to take part in events such as Young Voices at the O2 and Carols at the Cathedral, as in previous years.

We plan for Year 6 to perform an end-of-year show in which music plays a central role, and for other classes to share their singing and performing at assemblies and seasonal events.

Throughout the year, the school shares music events from Dynamics and the Medway Music Association that families can sign up to, such as festivals, ensembles and courses. Where an activity has a cost, parents will be told in advance.

In the future

In 2026-27, we aim to build on the music provision already in place. Our priorities are:

- Instruments and resources – review the instruments across the school and replace or add to them where the budget allows, so that lessons are well resourced.
- Early Years – develop music in the indoor and outdoor classroom, including instruments made from everyday and household items.
- Curriculum time – work towards the recommended one hour of music each week across Key Stages 1 and 2, including more regular class singing.
- Performances – give more pupils the chance to perform to an audience, for example through a whole-school singing performance linked to our Habits of Mind.
- Wider experiences – where possible, invite visiting musicians (such as a steel band or Dynamics workshop) so pupils can hear and learn about music from different cultures.
- Staff confidence – use training and resources from Sing Up and Dynamics to support teachers in delivering music lessons.