



DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2005-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Scholes
Name of local music hub	Oldham Music Service

MUSIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN	
Overall objective	At Fir Bank, our music curriculum intends to inspire creativity, self-expression and encourages our children on their musical journeys, as well as giving them opportunities to connect with others. We endeavour to promote a lifelong love of music by facilitating their musical experiences and igniting their passion for music. We strive to make music lessons fun and inspiring, engaging the children with songs, lyrics and movement. Through musical experiences, we provide the opportunity for children to develop as a whole, to nurture their sense of self and explore their own abilities. Through a range of whole class, group and individual activities children perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.
Key Components	The music curriculum ensures children sing, listen, play perform and evaluate. This is embedded in the classroom through a weekly structured music programme Charanga as well as weekly singing assemblies, various concerts and performances, clubs and teaching from specialist teachers. Consideration is given to how greater depth will be taught, learnt and demonstrated within each lesson, as well as how learners will be supported in line with the school's commitment to inclusion. <u>Classroom instrumental teaching</u> Children benefit from an external music teacher visiting school weekly, offering whole class woodwind teaching for all children in Year 4. Throughout their primary musical journey, children will learn how to play the Glockenspiels and other various percussion instruments within our music scheme. Playing various instruments enables children to use a range of methods to create notes, as well as how to read basic musical notation. <u>Small group instrumental teaching</u> Children also benefit from small groups tuition led by an external music teacher who visits school once a week. Children can choose from a variety of woodwind instruments including clarinets, flute and saxophone or learn how to play the guitar. Children are encouraged to practice their instrument at home and then bring their instrument to school each week. Instruments are loaned to the children from Oldham Music Centre. <u>Music CPD</u> The Music Leader has many CPD opportunities and is able to use staff meeting time to offer teaching staff further CPD.

	<u>Performance opportunities</u> Our children have lots of opportunities to perform in front of a live audience. These include a Christmas Musical Afternoon and an Easter and Summer Musical Performance. Classes sing a song during their termly class assembly and all children take part in weekly singing sessions during assembly. Children are provided with opportunities to meet children from other schools in Oldham at an annual event run by the Oldham Music Service. The whole school takes part in an annual national singing day challenge. <u>Links with External Organisations</u> We have links with Oldham Music Service who offer whole class and small group teaching to support with our musical offer throughout school.
Communication	We inform parents of musical opportunities through the weekly Fir Bank Flyer.
Budget, materials and staffing	We have one music leader who is offered time to focus on music in our school. We will continue to use Charanga to provide teachers with continuous professional development.

KEY AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT			
Area	Action	Date to be completed	Evaluation
Instrumental/ vocal teaching	Introduction of a wider range of instruments on offer for small group or individual lessons.	July 2026	Evaluation – Instrumental and Vocal Teaching Instrumental and vocal teaching at Fir Bank continues to be a strength of the school's music provision. Through specialist teaching from Oldham Music Centre, alongside the Charanga curriculum, weekly singing assemblies and a range of performance opportunities, pupils develop confidence in singing, playing instruments and performing to others. The school's inclusive approach ensures that all pupils, including those with SEND, can access and succeed in music, with evidence that children are developing their musical knowledge, skills and enthusiasm, supporting the aim of fostering a lifelong love of music.
Performance	Further develop performance opportunities for our young musicians throughout the school year.	July 2026	Performance is a significant strength of music at Fir Bank and provides pupils with regular opportunities to develop confidence, creativity and stage presence. Children participate in a wide range of performance experiences throughout the year, including three major musical productions, class assemblies, seasonal performances, singing events and summer concerts, ensuring that every pupil has opportunities to perform for audiences and celebrate their musical achievements. These experiences contribute positively to pupils' personal development, enjoyment of music and sense of belonging, while showcasing the

			inclusive and aspirational culture of the school.
Inclusion	Further develop engagement in extra-curricular music for Pupil Premium and SEND children.	September 2025	The school has maintained a strong commitment to ensuring that music is accessible to all pupils, with SEND pupils actively encouraged to participate and succeed in musical activities. Alongside whole-class music provision, opportunities such as the Sing and Sign group provide an inclusive platform for pupils to develop confidence, communication and performance skills. Further work to increase participation in extra-curricular music for Pupil Premium and SEND pupils has helped ensure that more children benefit from the enjoyment, achievement and sense of belonging that music can offer, reflecting Fir Bank's commitment to fairness and inclusion.
Singing	To continue to strengthen the school choir.	October 2025	The school choir continues to go from strength to strength, with over 30 pupils regularly participating and demonstrating a strong commitment to singing and performance. Choir members have represented the school in a variety of performances throughout the year, providing pupils with valuable opportunities to develop their vocal skills, confidence and teamwork while promoting a love of music beyond the classroom. The continued growth of the choir reflects the high profile of music at Fir Bank and its contribution to pupils' personal development and enjoyment of school life.