Music Development Plan summary: Hillhouse CE Primary 2026-27

This plan summary sets out how we at Hillhouse will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular (extra-curricular) music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the national plan for music education:

- timetabled curriculum music lessons of at least one hour each week of the school year for EYFS and key stages 1 & 2 (to include singing assembly)
- access to lessons across a range of instruments (piano, ukulele, recorder, xylophone, drums) and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- Where possible, a school recorder group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- school performances
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

This summary reflects Hillhouse's music provision for the given school year and plans for subsequent years. It also refers to any existing partnership with our local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	19.10.2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	01.09.2027
Name of the school music lead	Sophie Anderson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Greater Essex Music Hub: Essex Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, co-curricular (extra-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.

At Hillhouse:

- We follow the 'GetSet4Music' Curriculum Scheme, which has been written to follow the scope and breadth of the model music curriculum (March 2021), non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 & 2
- Music lessons are delivered weekly for up to an hour in every class in every year group by either the class teacher or an HLTA
- We partner with Greater Essex Music Hub and Essex Music Service to support musical opportunities for our pupils
- Pupils in years 3 and 4 have the opportunity to learn to play the ukulele during spring term music lesson time
- Pupils in years 1, 2, 5 and 6 have the opportunity to learn to play the glockenspiel during summer term music lesson time
- Pupils in EYFS have the opportunity to play the drums in autumn term music lesson time
- Our delivery of the music curriculum is also supported by Greater Essex Music Hub: Essex Music Service

Part B: Extra-curricular Music (music tuition, choirs and ensembles)

Pupils at Hillhouse have the opportunity to sing and play music outside of lesson time, including choir, weekly singing assembly, group ensembles (eg. recorder club) and peripatetic music lessons (eg. piano and 'Rock Steady'). Pupils can therefore make progress in music beyond the core curriculum.

At Hillhouse, pupils are able to make progress in music outside of lesson time. They are offered:

- piano lessons through a peripatetic piano teacher (one-to-one – paid for)
- instrumental lessons (guitar, drums, keyboard, voice) through 'Rock Steady Music School' (small group – paid for)
- recorder lessons (small group after school club with music lead)
- choir (lunchtime club with HT)
- weekly whole-school singing assemblies

- Ks2 pupils are invited to join the choir. If the numbers are high, the choir practice sessions will be split into KS1 and KS2. There is no charge for choir
- KS2 pupils are invited to join a recorder club. There is a £1 a week charge for this club (includes the use of a recorder and any other resources eg. sheet music)
- If pupils need/would like to rehearse or practice individually or in groups, this can be arranged (with prior notice) with the music lead/HT
- If pupils are eligible for Pupil Premium, they are able to access Financial assistance from Essex Music Service for music lessons, instrument hire and county-led ensembles.
- Pupils are able to access instrumental tuition and ensemble activities outside of the school day through Essex Music Service

Part C: Musical Experiences/Events/Performances

At Hillhouse, we endeavour to provide our pupils with other musical events and opportunities that we organise as time and opportunities arise, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

At Hillhouse, we recognise the value and importance of musical experiences and a creative curriculum. These opportunities are planned for at the beginning of the academic year but can also be fitted in when extra, unexpected opportunities arise:

- African drumming workshop/performance (pupils participating, performing and members of the audience)
- 'Rock Steady' demonstration assemblies (pupils participating and watching) and concerts to parents
- Weekly singing assembly (pupils participating)
- DJ workshops (Essex Music Service) pupils participating
- Choir singing at local care homes/school-based afternoon teas/Tesco carol singing (HT)
- Choir Christmas performance at St.John's Church (MAT organised – music lead/HT)
- Choir summer performance (MAT organised - music lead/HT)
- Piano pupils' end of year performance to parents/carers (Tim Copsey)
- Recorder club pupils' end of year performance to parents/carers (music lead)

In the Future

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

- Curriculum enhancement workshop through Essex Music Education Hub – 'Create-It!' A workshop that results in an original song being written for the whole school, by our students! By the end of the day, our school will have a recording of its own unique song that will be put on our school website (£230)
- To work on training for staff who teach music to ensure that their subject knowledge is strong and they feel confident in inspiring future musicians within school as well as let children experience musicians through lessons and assemblies to understand jobs they could have in their own futures.

Further Information

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.

Our local music hub should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.

Possible answers from Essex Music:

- Essex Music Service have produced a Parent's Guide to Music Provision which gives parents valuable information about supporting their child's music education
- Essex Music Service Schools Brochure 2024-25 https://www.essexmusicservice.org.uk/files/2024/06/DS24_8347-Music-Service-Schools-Digitalv2.pdf
- Greater Essex Music Hub Local Plan for Music Education – Information for schools https://www.essexmusicservice.org.uk/site/schools/resources/schools-music-education-plan-schools/