

# Music development plan summary: *Wren Spinney School*

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	November 2026
Name of the school music lead	Daniel Mulchrone

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.

### Wren Spinney Offer

Wren Spinney School caters for 97 pupils aged 11-18 years and is part of the Creating Tomorrow Trust.

The pupils at Wren Spinney School have:

- Cognition and Learning Needs
  - Severe Learning Disabilities (SLD)
  - Profound Multiple Learning Disabilities (PMLD)

They may also have:

- Communication and Interaction Needs
  - Autistic Spectrum Disorder
  - Speech, Language and Communication Need
- Sensory and/or Physical Needs
  - Cerebral Palsy
  - Hearing Impairment
  - Multi-Sensory Impairment
  - Physical Disability
  - Vision Impairment

## Part A: Curriculum music

This is about how Wren Spinney teaches music and the qualifications/ awards that pupils can achieve.

The nature of our cohort means that we do not teach distinct music session, instead it is interwoven through their experiences across the curriculum. Music is still a key part of their life and used as a vehicle for learning.

The Wren Spinney curriculum is Equals based and Creative Experiences are delivered at least one session a week based on the working levels and needs of the students. There are also Musical experiences woven through the curriculum. This ranges from nursery rhymes used for interaction, circle time, as part of choice-based communication sessions and through play. Music and rhythm are also a vehicle used for language acquisition for speech, symbolic communication, signing and gestural communication. This is seen in the delivery of TACPAC which is a sensory communication resource combining music and touch. This multisensory approach is utilised to promote a love of music and develop communication skills.

Music also plays a key role in the delivery of Sensory Stories which are delivered across the school and as part of the ASDAN qualifications process in Key Stage 4 and 5.

The school also funds a music specialist for two mornings each week to deliver music sessions to a range of classes and this offer rotates throughout the year to ensure all students have access to this input.

### Qualifications

Wren Spinney currently offers ASDAN qualification through modules delivered as part of our Post-16 offer. This includes “Encountering experiences: creativity” and “Engaging in new creative experiences”.

Starting this academic year (2025-2026) Wren Spinney will transition to Equals based certificates through “Moving on to...”, these include music opportunities for the students that it is appropriate for.

## Part B: Co-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.

Music is an all-encompassing experience at Wren Spinney from the transitions into and out of the school each day to the playground, classrooms and additional dedicated

teaching spaces where additional music sessions can be facilitated (The Nest, The Hide and The Mobile).

Music plays a vital role in the wider offer at Wren Spinney. Every week there is a values-based Assembly where the whole school is invited to share and contribute. Music plays an integral part of the Assembly and students are encouraged to come to the front of the hall to perform, sing, sign and join in with the music in a way that is accessible to them.

The school also runs a Signalong choir which is open to all students who wish to join. This choir has performed in the community, at a local old person's home, and at school events such as the Easter performance.

Another key part of Wren Spinney's musical offer is a music specialist referred to as "The Music Man", they offer singing lessons and musical sessions for key students who have shown an interest and deliver whole class sessions across the school. They also deliver music session on the playground during break times to offer musical experiences during this unstructured time.

These experiences are open to all students and additional opportunities are allocated to our cohort of Children in Care through Pupil Premium Plus funding.

## **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.

The students at Wren Spinney have access to a wide range of musical experiences from singing every week in assembly to music performances by the music specialist on the playground.

Everyday, during transport, the transition into and out of school is accompanied by music themed to each day of the week ranging from musicals to classical and Friday celebration.

For the last two years the school has paid for African Drummers to attend as part of Black History Month and each Christmas a local brass band attend and perform a range of Christmas Carols.

For the last two years the school has hosted Easter Performances which are an open platform for all classes to showcase a performance of their choice, including music and dance.

In the summer term there is a May Day celebration which involves musical performances, May Pole Dancing and Morris Men.

## In the future

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

We will keep developing music as part of the curriculum as a part of communication and for enjoyment.

Equals are also currently revamping their music curriculum, when this is released, we will implement applicable parts into our ever-developing curriculum.