

Music Development Plan

UMBERLEIGH ACADEMY

Overview

Detail	Information
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Alex Pester
Name of local music hub	Devon and Torbay Music Education Hub

Curriculum Music

Teaching and Learning:

At Umberleigh Academy all children receive one music lesson a week taught by a music specialist. Lessons are inclusive for all children. The curriculum has been planned to ensure coverage of the main eight strands of music across the year groups:

- Performance
- Pulse and rhythm
- Singing
- Composition
- Notation
- Listening
- Music appreciation
- Significant people

All KS2 children are taught to play an instrument as part of their whole class music lessons for a minimum of one term every year. Children are taught to read basic staff notation, as well as using informal methods of notation and learning to play by ear. Children are encouraged to use technical vocabulary which has been taken from the "Model Music Curriculum" (March 2021) when discussing music such as; crotchet, minim, crescendo, accelerando, tempo and pitch.

Singing:

Singing is central to the music in our school. It may be used as a warmup to start the weekly music lesson or it may be integral to the unit. The children are taught singing in a weekly whole

school singing assembly, with singing included in other assemblies throughout the week. Singing plays an important role in school events throughout the year including the harvest assembly, Christmas concerts, Easter service and school play.

Assessment for Learning:

Children demonstrate their ability in music in a variety of different ways. The teacher assesses children's work in music by making informal judgments as the children are observed during lessons. Children are also encouraged to make judgments about how they can improve their own work. At the end of a unit of work, the teacher makes a summary judgment about the work of each pupil which is recorded on Arbor and fed into end of year reports.

Extra-Curricular Music

Instrument Tuition:

Visiting music teachers are welcomed into our school to broaden and enrich the curriculum that we have on offer to our children. We greatly value their contribution.

Umberleigh Academy currently has three teachers who offer children the opportunity to learn in a one to one or small group lesson, paid for by parents. We offer a 50% reduction in cost to those pupils who are pupil premium. Some teachers offer the opportunity to work through graded exams (Associated Board or Trinity) if children wish to. Instrument lessons currently on offer include:

- Guitar
- Ukulele
- Piano/keyboard
- Drums
- Rocksteady rock bands

Clubs:

All children are invited to join our Rocksteady rock bands (lessons paid for by parents); Rocksteady provide a range of electric instruments, and the rock bands perform three times a year to parents and pupils in their own assemblies.

Next Steps:

Children are sign posted to join the North Devon Music Centre held at Pilton Community College once a week. The centre runs a variety of ensemble groups for beginners upwards, for

orchestral instrument players and guitarists. Children are also sign posted to join the Teachers Rock Youth Choir run by Debbie Kent.

Musical Events & Performances

Performing and watching performances are both important aspect of being a musician. We provide the following opportunities throughout the year:

- Three times a year we hold music sharing assemblies and invite all children who learn an instrument to perform to parents
- All year groups take part in the school play which involves singing, dancing and drama
- We endeavour to take part in events held by the Devon Music Education Hub such as "the Mix Music Festival"
- Every two years the school hires the Queens Theatre in Barnstaple to hold a "Proms Concert" enabling all KS2 children to perform musical acts on stage in front of a large audience in a theatre
- At the end of the summer term, we invite a live musician to perform to the children as an end of year summer treat

In the Future

- We will embrace any new opportunities that we are offered to showcase our children's musical talents or to experience professional live music performances

Further information

The Devon & Torbay Music Education Hub believe all children and young people should be able to learn to sing, play an instrument and create music together, and have the opportunity to progress their musical interests and talent, including into a professional creative career. More information about the hub can be found here:

<https://www.musiceducationhub.org/site/about-us/>

The Department for Education has published a guide for parents and young people which explains how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school:

[Music education: information for parents and young people - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people)