

Music development plan summary: Davenport Hill School

This development plan sets out how Davenport Hill School will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least 30 minutes each week of the school year for all students using Cheranga music curriculum
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir who attends a number of events
- a calendar of school performances across the school

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	Feb 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	Feb 2027
Name of the school music lead	Nicola Cartwright
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Louise Worts
Name of local music hub	Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

This is a summary of how Davenport Hill 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

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 Daventry Hill School, we have timetabled music lessons in all year groups, with Post 16 tailoring music provision to meet the needs to individual students. We use the Charanga Music Scheme to form the majority of our lessons which is aligned to the National Curriculum (2014) for Key Stages 1 and 2.

When using the scheme and its progressive week-by-week lessons, we are guaranteeing that we meet statutory requirements such as listening and appraising, musical skills activities, improvisation, composition and performance. Students have access to a number of percussion instruments as well as glockenspiels which enable them to participate in tuned performances. Teachers access the appropriate level within the Charanga scheme to match the needs of their cohort. Several classes of students with complex needs have been trialling the SEND music scheme this year to help with communication and creativity. Also, a number of complex-needs primary classes have found that their cohort are unable to access the Charanga scheme and so they have been tailoring their music lessons further by using nursery rhymes to give the students sensory, repetitive and familiar experiences.

In addition to using the scheme, teachers also use music to enable students to self-regulate, communicate, and gain rewards, in order to meet the range of individual needs in line with their EHCP outcomes.

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.

Pupils at Daventry Hill School have the opportunity to participate in the weekly choir sessions, which are available from Key Stage 3 to Post 16, in the purpose-built performing arts studio. During these well-attended sessions, students learn warm-up activities to help with breathing to support vocal health, Makaton signing, dance moves to songs, as well as learning and singing new and familiar songs.

To meet the individual needs of SEND students, teachers are supported to provide musical activities where students express an interest, and in post-16 students who express an interest in musical activities have music timetabled into their schedules and lessons tailored to meet their learning needs.

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.

At Daventry Hill School, pupils are given the opportunity to take part in the 'Voice in a Million' concert where they learn a set list of songs which they perform at the OVO Arena, Wembley, with around 6000 other children from schools across the country. Parents/carers purchase a 'VIAM' t-shirt to pay for the event and the school provides the transport to and from the arena. This opportunity is open to all students from Key Stage 3 to Post 16, whether or not they regularly attend choir rehearsals.

This year, in partnership with local businesses which support the school employability programme, Daventry Hill school choir has been invited to perform carols at a Christmas event at the local Daventry International Rail Freight Terminal, along with another local secondary school choir. This has become a regular event and is well-attended by a number of businesses. In addition, the school choir regularly perform at school events such as the Remembrance Service and school fayres.

Students have the opportunity to hear a flute performance by a member of staff at the school during Christmas carol services each year. This helps inspire them to enjoy live music and to explore ways they can also take part in performances through singing or learning instruments themselves.

In the future

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

In the subsequent years to come, we are planning to build on our music progress by re-evaluating the current curriculum to upskill in line with the model music curriculum (March 2021) for Key Stages 1 and 2. In addition, we will be further evaluating the effectiveness of the Charanga SEND scheme and tailoring this, and other examples of good practice, to new cohorts as necessary. We will continue to provide our staff with CPD to continue to develop their confidence and subject knowledge in teaching music.

Our intention is to continue to develop the school choir and children's performance skills with more opportunities to perform throughout the year, both in school and the local community. We also plan to look at increasing the number of live performances from the local music hub and musicians in the area to build on the students' experiences.

Overall, it is our desire that the teaching and performance of music will enable our students to increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievements as they progress through the school, and develop as individuals.

Further information (optional)

Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust (NMPAT) offer individual instrumental music tuition and there are a number of Saturday morning music schools throughout the county.