

## Music Development Plan

<b>Detail</b>	<b>Information</b>
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	November 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miss L Freeman
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Overseen by Headteacher, Mrs H Cagney
Name of local music hub	Essex
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Stave House

Music is a vibrant part of life at Bocking, offering every pupil a means of expression. This reflects the National Curriculum's aim to increase self-confidence through performance and promote music as a 'universal language'

### Part A: Curriculum Music

At Bocking Primary School, all pupils receive a weekly music lesson. From Reception to Year 4, teaching is delivered by Ruth Travers, Director of Stave House. Music is taught using a structured approach that develops musical reading, performance, and composition through storytelling, rhyme, and character-based learning.

Teaching aligns with the National Curriculum for Music. In Key Stage One, pupils use their voices expressively and play tuned instruments while exploring the inter-related dimensions of music. In Key Stage Two, pupils perform with increasing accuracy and control, both independently and in ensembles, improvising and composing for a range of purposes. This progression ensures a coherent development of musical knowledge and skills across the school.

In Years 5 and 6, pupils continue their musical journey by exploring units developed by Sing Up and the Royal Opera House, which build on their foundational skills and introduce more advanced musical concepts. Children work towards end performance pieces which are showcased to the school community.

Aside from their lessons, pupils also have the opportunity to work towards the Stave House Music Awards, Levels 1 to 3. These nationally recognised qualifications are accredited by the London College of Music, part of the University of West London. The awards assess pupils' ability to read, write, perform music and provide a structured pathway for musical development. Achieving these levels not only celebrates children's progress but also gives pupils a formal certificate that reflects their growing musical literacy and confidence

## Part B: Co-curricular Music

In addition to their classroom learning, pupils at Bocking Primary School have the chance to take private lessons in piano, violin or become a band member in I Rock sessions. They may also choose to join the school choir, which currently boasts over 35 enthusiastic singers from Year 2 to Year 6.

## Part C: Musical Experiences

In weekly music assemblies pupils take part in harmonised singing of songs such as *In Harmony* and *Power in Me*, helping them develop ensemble performance skills and improve vocal technique. They also practise body percussion to enhance their sense of rhythm. Within assemblies, the ‘Genre of the Month’ initiative introduces children to a variety of musical styles, expanding their musical knowledge and understanding of music history. In weekly music assemblies pupils have the opportunity to share their musical experiences, reflect on their engagement in music and suggest new genres to explore—rap being a recent choice by popular demand.

Children are regularly given opportunities to perform. The Bocking Primary Summer Concert showcases our choir, soloists, and violinists alongside the community Bocking Brass Band, allowing pupils to perform for an audience and celebrate their musical progress. The school choir takes part in Young Voices at the O2, while Year 5 pupils participate in Braintree Sings. Our school also engages with the local community, performing at St Mary’s Church Carol Concert and at nearby care homes, including The Deanery and Millard House.

## Part D: In the Future

Our priorities for the coming year include creating purposeful opportunities for pupils to experience and listen to live music, in line with the National Curriculum expectation that children develop attentive and reflective listening skills. By exposing pupils to high-quality live performance, we aim not only to strengthen their musical perception but also to broaden the cultural experiences available to them within and beyond the school environment.

Encounters with a diverse range of musical traditions, genres, and performers will help pupils develop a deeper understanding of music as an art form and as a means of expression. Through these experiences, we intend to foster curiosity, confidence, and enjoyment, ultimately inspiring pupils to cultivate a lasting appreciation and love of music.