Shepherds Down Music Development Plan 2026-2027

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across four areas. This information is to help pupils and parents or cares understand what our school offers an who we work with to support our pupil's music education.

"Where words fail, music speaks"
Hans Christian Anderson

Our Vision

At Shepherds Down School we aim to engage and inspire children to develop independence and life skills including a love of music.

- We aim to provide children with high quality musical experiences, where music making has purpose, is valued and celebrated.
- We aim to promote a broad musical culture, with opportunities to play and sing together, perform, create and experience live music.
- We aim to deliver music that is practical and embedded in our daily teaching and learning experiences.
- We aim to ensure that there are no barriers to participation and learning, allowing all children to experience the joys of making music, as well as supporting children's wider development, well-being and emotional health.

Music as a Learning Tool	Music as a Tool for Regulation	Music as a Therapy	Music for Pure Enjoyment and Community Well-being

• Music is delivered in a cross curricular approach imbedded in the school day by teachers, to support children's learning at different levels.
• Technology is used to support children's learning through access to different multi media, including touch screens, iPads and iPods both accessing online and downloaded music.
• Our 4 learning pathways allow for a broad range of different subject coverage with either direct or in direct teaching of a range of subjects, Music being one.
• Music is a multi-sensory resource to aid learning such as:
  ○ Counting songs
  ○ Days of the week, what's the weather songs etc.
• Used to introduce new topics, learning and activities.
• Transition cues (beginning and end of lessons)
• Early phonics, intensive interaction (vocalisations) and ditty songs to support the curiosity approach.
• Access to dedicated music room and instruments
• Access to termly Music sessions delivered by Hampshire music service.
	• Calm, classical or mood music is used to calm and relax.
	• Sensory movement breaks with energetic music to wake up, move and energise or calm music to help calm and regulate will be used in some classes.
	• Access to 1-1 tuition for students (with parental support) who show a natural talent for an instrument.
	• Access to musical resources that support individua; zones of regulation toolkits.
		Music therapy can help children to:
		• Develop social communication and play skills
		• Express themselves creatively
		• Gain greater awareness of themselves and others
		• Build self-esteem, through a trusting therapeutic relationship
		• Improve and enhance their wellbeing
		• Provide an accepting environment, where aces to other learning can begin and positive change can take place.
			• Children listen and respond to a wide variety of music to support and develop their musical understanding.
			• Children have the opportunity to engage with assemblies led by Christ Church community services, this involves singing and playing instruments as a collective.
			• Musical Volunteer attends weekly to a class with an instrument. He encourages students to play, engage and explore the instruments.
			• Opportunities to attend Hampshire Music events such as Winchester Special celebrations.
			• Engagement with visiting Choirs who come to perform.
			• Children explore and play music outside in our Key Stage 1 music garden.