

Music development plan summary: The Robert Drake Primary School

Overview:

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	July 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Sophia Glover
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Greater Essex Music Hub: Essex Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	ROH Thurrock BATIC schools

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.

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.

Robert Drake follows the national curriculum for teaching music and the non-statutory Model Music Curriculum, published by the DfE in March 2021.

The Music Curriculum for Robert Drake Primary School is published on the school's website.

Music is taught for half an hour each week in class curriculum lessons taught by class teachers. Children also have a half hour music session led by a music specialist. Children regularly access singing in assemblies and additional school wide music opportunities such as performing in class assemblies and singing songs related to other curriculum areas.

Robert Drake follows a progression of music skills based on the Model Music Curriculum from EYFS to year 6. Children in Years 3 and 4 also have the opportunity to play instruments (Toots) through whole-class ensemble teaching, delivered by the Essex Schools' Music Service.

Progression is mapped through the different key stages ensuring our lessons cover the aims of the school curriculum plan and progression map. Key vocabulary and inter-related dimensions of music are planned to be progressive through each year group.

Part B: Extra-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.

Robert Drake offers one to one/ small group lessons in; drumming, brass and woodwind, piano and 'band' instruments through Rock Steady tuition. Parents and carers pay for these lessons. Looked after children access music tuition through Essex Music Service (virtual school for children in care).

Every child from year 1-6 attends an annual pantomime at the theatre which is funded for pupil premium children.

There is a KS2 choir at Robert Drake and they rehearse weekly after school with opportunities to perform throughout the year. Choir is inclusive and open to all children in years 4-6. There is also a radio club for children in KS2 which takes place during lunchtimes and allows pupils to learn some elements of music technology including editing and recording.

Robert Drake is part of BATIC schools and have opportunities to perform at the palace theatre BATIC's got talent and a year 3 dance festival.

Children in years 2 and 5 take part in infant and junior music festivals, organised by the Essex Music Hub.

Children who wish to practice their instruments in school are able to access the Happiness Hub and Library during lunchtimes and can rehearse or practice individually or in groups.

Pupils are able to access financial assistance from Essex Music Service for music lessons, instrument hire and county-led ensembles.

Pupils are able to access instrumental tuition and ensemble activities outside of the school day through Essex Music Service.

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.

All children sing regularly in assembly.

EYFS

- Children perform a play/nativity at Christmas which includes singing.
- Children share their musical learning in our performance assemblies at the end of each half term (from after Christmas for EYFS).

KS1

- Each class has a special assembly for parents, once a year, which includes singing.
- Children perform a play/nativity at Christmas which includes singing.
- Year 2 children take part in the infant music festival.
- All children visit the pantomime at Towngate theatre.
- Children share their musical learning in our performance assemblies at the end of each half term.

LKS2

- Each class has a special assembly for parents, once a year, which includes singing.
- Children take part in a Christmas carol concert at St Peters church.
- All children visit the pantomime at Towngate theatre.
- Children share their musical learning in our performance assemblies at the end of each half term.

UKS2

- Each class has a special assembly for parents, once a year, which includes singing.
- Children perform a panto/play at Christmas which includes singing.
- Year 6 perform in a leavers assembly.
- Year 5 children take part in the junior music festival.
- All children visit the pantomime at Towngate theatre.
- Children share their musical learning in our performance assemblies at the end of each half term.

- Children are able to take part in radio club.

In the future

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

The school is beginning to make links with local secondary schools to attend and take part in workshops and concerts.

The school is introducing half termly music celebration assemblies to bring together all elements of musical learning across the school.

Further information

Essex Music Service have produced a [Parent's Guide to Music Provision](#) which gives parents valuable information about supporting their child's music education.

Essex Music Service Schools Brochure 2025-26

Greater Essex Music Hub Local Plan for Music Education.