

## Music development plan summary: Doubletrees School

Doubletrees school is an SEND school for ages 2-19 learners with severe or profound and multiple learning difficulties and it is a member of the Special Partnership Trust.

We have three learning pathways within school. The pre-formal learning pathway, known as Engagement, where learners follow the Engagement Model. The Access cohort is a semi-formal learning pathway, where learners access the pre-requisites to learning and the early stages of the National Curriculum. The third pathway is our Discovery pathway, where learners access the National curriculum through formal learning opportunities. We have an EYFS and Post 16 provision.

Our learners are complex and diverse and we take a personalised learning approach to our curriculum, making adaptations to ensure that learning is accessible to all.

Music is highly evident across the school. We use it as part of our routines, lessons, therapy sessions, sensology and positive touch to music sessions. We aim to create a learning environment that empowers students to become creative, imaginative explorers in Music. Giving them access to a range of musical styles, instruments and experiences. Using our core values, we aim to develop Musical skill and engagement so that our learners can continue to enjoy and explore music in their future lives after Doubletrees.

### Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2023-2024
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Josephine Conac
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Joanne Hobbs
Name of local music hub	Asone hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Cornwall Music Service Trust

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.

Music is written into our long term plans and delivered through Charanga in our classes that access the curriculum. These classes teach Music for 6 weeks minimum of every term. Charanga units have been written into the long term plan to ensure a range of opportunities and progression of key skills are available throughout the learner's time at school and to avoid repetition. Many of these classes also have time allocated on their timetable to sing and sign opportunities delivered through singing hands, Charanga resources or Melody Signs.

We use Sounds of Intent assessment to assess all our learner's musical engagement level. We also use the adapted version of SOI for EYFS in our early years classes. We then use Soundabout at the appropriate SOI levels with huge success in our pre-formal classes. In our pre formal classes we also teach Sensology, Positive touch to Music,

We have a school Makaton choir which gathers weekly and performed twice this year both internally at our Christmas fayre in front of parents and staff and again at the Singing Hands concert at the Keay theatre in St Austell. We look forward to more performance opportunities next year.

## 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.

We also have Open orchestra run by school music lead Jo Conac with Sinne Brock from the Cornwall Music Service Trust. We meet regularly with Steve Hawker from the CSMT who advises on funding and the running of the orchestra. We started the year with small groups of two and have slowly built up to two larger groups of 6 who enjoy attending weekly sessions. We have not yet done a public performance but look forward to planning one for Christmas this year.

Our rehearsals for choir take place in our large hall space and this hall booking is prioritised to ensure that choir does take place weekly. Our orchestra takes place in the library and others are advised not to interrupt the session which works well. WE also use the library for music therapy sessions on a Monday with Karen Jones funded by Cornwall music Service Trust. We also use the library for individual music tuition with Sinne Brock on a Tuesday. This has been heavily subsidised this year for learners with free school meals and an EHCP which made the lessons very popular.

Due to the nature of our school we do not have individual practice rooms but learners are encouraged to choose musical instruments as a choice article in their classrooms. There are HOP bags, full of learner's favourite items which, often have instruments in, instruments are available to reach for in most classrooms or learners have environmental symbols available which mean they can ask for a drum or other instrument. Many of our learners use whistles or drums to regulate and calm themselves when distressed or dysregulated these are available in accessible drawers or offered to learners when they need them.

This year we got several new guitars and keyboards that are being used every day around the school. We also got new percussion kits to match our topic based study of different countries around the world including Africa and India.

## 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.

We love performances and visitors at Doubletrees and this year we have hosted the following:

- Vox, a string quartet from the Boconnoc music festival who performed to the whole school
- Lise Vandermissen funded by Live music Now who performed to the school with her harp
- Small Town Jones an Indie Rock band funded by Live music now who performed to the whole school at Christmas.
- Chapel Street Ensemble, a local band led by Anna Minear, who performed and delivered a series of three weekly workshops with three of our classes.
- For International Music day we had a drumming workshop from Graham at Drums4fun assisted by volunteers and an ex pupil as well as The Garker Street Band who did a walking tour around the school with a saxophonist and singer.
- We also enjoyed a Pantomime from MandM theatre and a multi sensory performance from Moonbeam Theatre, two totally different performances which provided something for everyone.

## In the future

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

In the new Autumn term we look forward to MandM theatre and Moonbeam theatre returning for more performances. Open orchestra, individual music tuition and music therapy are all set up to continue in September. Charanga subscription will continue and closer to Christmas everyone will start to complete their sounds of intent assessments again. We gained an Artsmark Silver Award this year and the judges were interested and impressed to hear that we use the SOI method of assessment and look forward to hearing more about it. We have found the biggest most important benefit is that it has helped us to better understand our learner's reactive, proactive and interactive levels of engagement with music and sound. This has enabled us to better plan for them when differentiating and preparing resources in music, phonics, communication and speaking & listening lessons.