Music development plan summary: Frinton on Sea Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	April 2026
Name of the school music lead	Stacey Minshull
Name of local music hub	Greater Essex Music Hub: Essex Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Stave House iRock

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-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 taught weekly at Frinton on Sea Primary School using a curriculum plan that has been developed in house. Music is taught using the Stave House method, endorsed by the London College of Music.

Our school curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021) and provides an engaging, challenging curriculum for pupils to follow.

As advised in the National Plan for Music, our music curriculum has been developed by, and taught by, a music specialist teacher. Every child accesses a weekly 30-minute music lesson with a specialist teacher.

Pupils at Frinton on Sea Primary take part in a high-quality weekly singing assembly of 25 minutes, which includes learning vocal techniques and singing in parts, supporting the vocal work explored in curriculum lessons. This is very popular with pupils. A variety of

repertoire is explored and includes positive messages about community, friendships and the world.

Pupils take part in “Musician of the Month”, listening to music from a selected musician each month and discussing the features with their class teacher. This ensures that children are regularly exposed to music from different cultures, genres and time periods.

All pupils at Frinton on Sea Primary School learn to play tuned and untuned percussion instruments during music lessons.

- EYFS and Key Stage 1 children predominantly use the chime bars and a selection of untuned classroom percussion instruments.
- Pupils deepen their chime bar skills during Key Stage 2, moving on to use chromatic glockenspiels in Year 5 and 6.
- In Year 4 and 5, pupils learn to play the descant recorder during whole class instrument teaching.
- All KS2 pupils learn to play the African djembe drums during the Spring term.

All children are given the opportunity to take external music qualifications (Stave House Awards) via London College of Music which are assessed during lesson time and are a wonderful way to celebrate pupil’s musical achievements. These awards are paid for by parents.

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.

Key Stage 2 pupils can join a school choir, meeting after school on a weekly basis to learn vocal techniques and repertoire. Children participating in choir are given the opportunity to perform at the end of each term in an organised external event, or during school assembly. Choir spaces are offered to children in years 3-6 and renewed on a termly basis.

The school choir have the opportunity to perform at a large-scale event each year. In 2026, the children will return to The Princes Theatre, Clacton-on-Sea to take part in Tendring Vocal Festival with other local school choirs in the area.

Pupils at Frinton on Sea Primary School are able to access 1-2-1 tuition through our partnership with Greater Essex Music Hub. We are currently offering woodwind, guitar and piano lessons. Lesson fees are charged to parents via the Essex Music Hub on a termly basis and disadvantaged pupils can apply for funding towards these lessons.

Instruments are made available to pupils through an instrument loan scheme which can be accessed by parents. The loan scheme is also available to children who are taking lessons outside of the school offer. This was a new scheme introduced in 2024/25. There are currently 23 children participating in music lessons with peripatetic teachers.

Through our partnership with iRock Music School, pupils are also able to take up the opportunity to play a rock band instrument (keyboard, guitar or drums) or to sing, with an ensemble of up to eight players. Group lessons take place on a weekly basis with an iRock tutor. Lesson fees are charged directly to parents via the iRock portal. The school also benefit from one bursary place, giving a child who may not usually be able to access these music sessions the chance to join one of the bands. Children who are signed up to iRock have the opportunity to perform to their parents, and the school community, once each term. There are currently 18 children in iRock bands at school and 1 fully funded bursary place.

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.

Pupils at Frinton on Sea Primary School take part in a number of musical experiences during their school life.

EYFS and Key Stage 1 pupils perform an annual Christmas nativity which includes music, dance and drama skills.

Key Stage 2 pupils perform to parents and governors at the Frinton Free Church at their annual Christmas carol service and St Mary's Parish Church for the Frinton Rotary Club.

Children in Year 4 have the opportunity to perform their recorder pieces to the rest of the school during the Summer term.

The school choir performs during assembly in the Summer term, as well as taking part in the Christmas carol concert, singing at the Christmas Fayre and taking part in a large-scale event.

We hold a Summer Showcase concert for the students of our 1-2-1 tutors as well as the members of the school choir.

In December 2025, Year 3 and 4 are expecting a performance from visiting theatre company, Funnelwick Limb.

In the future

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

The school will strengthen links with the local community when the school choir sing at the Rotary Carol concert at St Mary's Parish Church and Hammond Court Home and Frinton Free Church.

By raising the profile of peripatetic music lessons and iRock opportunities in school, we hope to increase the number of children accessing this musical learning.

Further information

- The Department for Education publishes a guide for parents and young people on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.
- 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