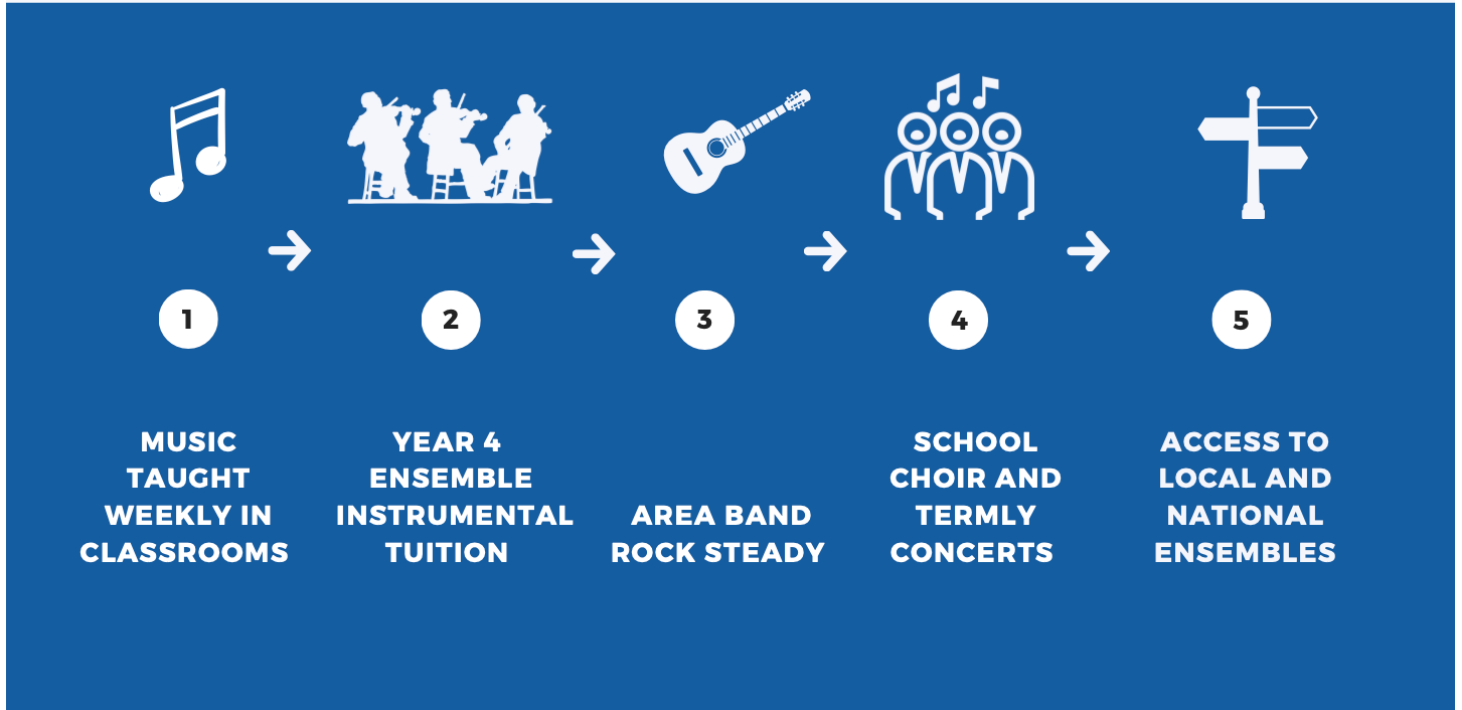





# National Plan for Music Education

2025 - 2027



The National Music Plan “The power of music to change lives – A National Plan for Music Education” (DfE 2022) outlines the expectation for all schools to have a School Music Development Plan in place. At Whitegate, we teach the joy of music. Here you can see the many opportunities children have to engage with music during their time at Primary school. Whitegate staff are driven to provide musical enrichment that allows children to enjoy, excel and achieve.



**MUSIC TAUGHT WEEKLY IN CLASSROOMS**

One hour a week is dedicated to ensuring children are accessing and enjoying music within classrooms. This can take a variety of forms. As a school, we follow the Get Set 4 Music scheme, which guides children through the elements of interrelated dimensions of music and the skills they need to learn them such as: listening and appraising, performing, transcribing, and improvising. These skills are at the heart of all music teaching and children leave Whitegate having experienced them regularly. Music is taught in a spiral curriculum, which means these elements are taught throughout a child’s music education and revisited each year with increasing challenge. This ensures children master a skill before it becomes more complex. Whitegate also has passionate teachers who lead singing assemblies in KS1 and KS2 to ensure all children have the opportunity to sing weekly and perform once a term to the rest of the school and to parents at our annual Christmas concerts and Nativities.



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## YEAR 4 ENSEMBLE INSTRUMENTAL TUITION

Whitegate works very closely with Nottingham Music Service to ensure children get involved with and continue their love of music into secondary school and beyond. To spark a love of instruments, when children reach Year 4, they receive weekly tuition on the brass instrument of their choice, either trumpet or trombone. Each week, they will learn how to care for, play and get the most out of their instruments, as well as learn to read music. Each Year 4 class will form their own ensemble. In March they get the opportunity to come together at the Albert Hall in Nottingham to perform in a massed orchestra as part of the 'Great Orchestra experiment'.



Here is a recording of a previous performance which Whitegate was part of! In September of year 5, children can choose to attend music camp, an overnight residential course to support their transition to an area band!

Children who attend Music Camp and Area Band beyond year 4 are invited to have small group trumpet or trombone lessons, subsidised completely by school. These will be run by Jovi from the Music Service on a Friday afternoon. Children will be allocated their slots in Autumn 1. They have the opportunity to learn pieces and play as a small group, as well as applying for graded examinations.



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## AREA BAND ROCK STEADY

As children experience brass instruments in Year 4, we endeavour to ensure they experience other musical instrument families. On Wednesday afternoons, we are also very proud to host Rock Steady, our vocal, guitar, bass, keyboard, and drum kit small group tuition. With school pupil premium and home-funded options, our aim is to excite as many children as possible with modern day and classical rock songs! Every term the children get to perform to the school and their parents in their very own rock concert. Whitegate also has a year group set of (sixty) glockenspiels to ensure children have the chance to play tuned percussion – a very popular choice at our school! The instruments are played in music lessons in class. Our Get Set 4 Music Scheme is also introducing a Glockenspiel course in 2025-2026 so children will have further support when applying skills and knowledge in classroom lessons.



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## SCHOOL CHOIR AND TERMLY CONCERTS

Whitegate has a school choir, open for children from Year 1 to Year 6. We sing a variety of modern day and more classical arrangements, as well as some world music. Since the choir started, our 30+ strong team have enjoyed singing at Nottingham Music Service's Christmas event at the Nottingham Contemporary with other musicians from the region. They have performed carols at Larkhill's residences in the village, making a huge difference to their community, and they have also shown their talents at the Transform Christmas extravaganza! It is of the utmost importance here at Whitegate that all children have the confidence to use their voices and feel part of something special. Choir is a free after-school club ran every Thursday from when school finishes at 3:15 to 4:00pm. To attend, let the office know so your child can be put on the register. We are fortunate to share a love of music across our staff team. Our Executive Head Teacher keeps a waiting list for keen performers to open our KS2 Star of the Week assembly every Friday, giving even more children the confidence to perform.



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## ACCESS TO LOCAL AND NATIONAL ENSEMBLES

Being part of a musical ensemble can change a child's life. The friendship, confidence, and skills it provides are life-long. Whitegate's music offering is tailored to open these doors for all children and see them continue their love of music beyond their primary education. As well as our school offering, we encourage children to attend an ensemble with Nottingham music service.

Here is a link to the ensembles in the city children can attend:

<https://www.nottinghammusichub.org.uk/ensembles>

Whitegate's musical future:

- Whitegate has applied to attend the National 'Young Voices' in Sheffield in 2025-2026. It is the largest children's choir in the world!
- 2025-2026 will be the second year since the implementation of our Music Scheme: Get Set 4 Music. We will be monitoring progression across the interrelated dimensions of music by having termly focuses such 'pitch' or 'dynamics'. Pupil voice will be taken in Spring 1 to assess skill attainment and enjoyment across the Music curriculum.

If you have any questions, please ask to speak to Mrs Cole, our music lead.