



The Role of a Primary Music Lead

Samantha Ojokor



Context!

‘Music leads and heads of department are not only responsible for curriculum provision. Unlike many other subject leads, music leads and heads of music – at primary and secondary – will have wider responsibilities for developing the musical culture of the school, including co-curricular provision, experiences and performances.’

(National Plan for Music Education, 2022 – DFE pg. 20)



National Plan for Music Education (NPME 2022)



- NPME builds on the original plan for music education in the 2011.
- Response to the changes of the past 11 years recognising that more needs to be done to support teachers, leaders, schools, trusts and Hubs to deliver the best for children and young people’.





Vision of the NPME

The plan sets out the government's vision to enable all children and young people in England to:

- learn to sing, play an instrument and create music together ,
- have the opportunity to progress their musical interests including professionally.

(National Plan for Music Education, 2022 – DfE)





Goals of the NMPE

1. All children and young people receive a high-quality music education in the early years and in schools.
2. All music educators work in partnership, with children and young people's needs and interests at their heart.
3. All children and young people with musical interests and talents have the opportunity to progress, including professionally.

(National Plan for Music Education, 2022 – DfE)





Key Features of High-Quality Music Provision

- Timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1-3.
- Access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice.
- A school choir and/or vocal ensemble.
- A school ensemble/band/group.
- Space for rehearsals and individual practice.
- A termly school performance.
- Opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year.





The Role of Music Leads

Schools are ‘encouraged to aim high with their provision’ and in order to accomplish this vision schools -

- music should be represented in every school’s leadership structure, with a *designated music lead* or head of department at school and/or academy trust level, *for primary and secondary phases*.
- A primary school’s music curriculum should be developed and ideally delivered by a *music specialist* wherever possible, but where it isn’t possible, by a *designated music lead*, supported with appropriate training and connected to support from their local Music Hub.

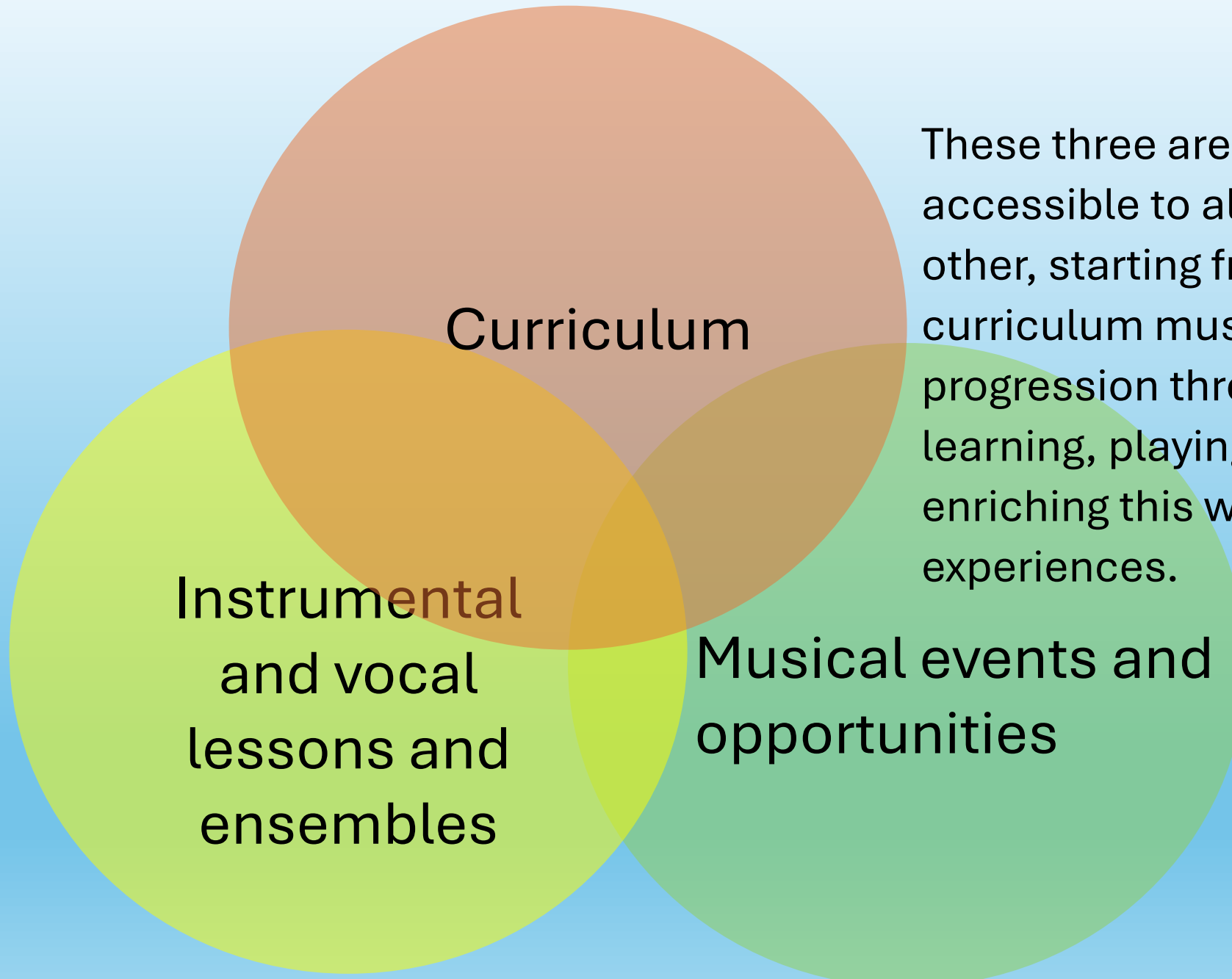


The Role of Music Leads

The NPME makes it clear that it views the role of the Music Lead is to provide ‘A high-quality school music education consisting of three distinct, but interlinked areas of provision.

1. Curriculum
2. Instrumental and vocal lessons and ensembles
3. Musical events and opportunities





These three areas, which should be accessible to all pupils, build on each other, starting from a foundation set in curriculum music time, supporting progression through co curricular learning, playing and creating, and enriching this with musical experiences.

The Role of Music Leads

As Music Lead you are responsible for the following:



Curriculum Music

- Curriculum maps/plans (what are your pupils learning?)
- Progression strategy (what does progression look like within/across key stages)
- Timetable and time allocation (how is music delivered, length, weekly, bi-weekly, carousel?)
- Space and resources (delivered by whom (specialist, outside providers, online music resource package and where? What instruments etc.)





The Role of Music Leads

Instrumental lessons and ensembles

- Individual and group instrumental lessons
- Extra-curricular clubs

Musical events, performances and activities

- Trips,
- Performances
- Outside providers
- Visiting performers





The Role of Music Leads

Structures around music provision

- Development plan - vision
- staffing and leadership
- Working in partnerships with others
- Staff CPD
- Evidence of impact- assessment and monitoring
- Budget and funding (PTA, Hub grant, grants)





Music Development Plan

- ‘schools should write a Music Development Plan that captures the curricular and co-curricular offer and set outs how it will be funded.’ *(Pg17 & pg44)*
- From September 2023: All schools to consider the guidance for implementation over the next academic year (from Sept 2022 onwards) and aim to have a Music Development Plan in place for academic year 2023/2024. This informs areas for development and celebrates success.



Ofsted Deep Dives

As Music Lead you are expected to be interviewed and provide evidence to support your answers to these 3 key questions on curriculum *design, delivery and assessment*



Design

1. What are you trying to achieve through your curriculum? (**INTENT**) How is it structured? Linked to the National Curriculum/ New Model Curriculum?

Delivery

2. How is your curriculum being delivered? (**IMPLEMENTATION**)

Assessment

3. What difference is your curriculum making? (**IMPACT**)



Ofsted Deep Dives



As Music Lead you will be asked to offer clarity regarding the awareness of prior learning from previous Key Stages (i.e. EYFS to KS1, KS1 to KS2). You will need to be able to articulate the learning journey across year groups and Key Stages

This will be crucial in demonstrating what school leaders want their pupils **to know and be able to do** by the time they leave their school.



NPME Vision Versus your Vision!

Step 1: Have your own personal vision for your department. What do you want your music provision to look like?

If you have a clear vision, then the goals of the NPME will occur naturally.

Step 2: to create a vision you will need to clearly see what your music provision looks like now.

How? Carry out a **subject audit** to identify what your department looks like now, use it to highlight strengths and weaknesses





NPME Vision Versus your Vision!

Step 3: use the findings of the audit to:

Help create your vision: your vision will then shape every aspect of the three areas stated by the NMPE and **Structures around music**, in particular the **Development Plan**





Action Steps

1. Carry out an Audit
2. Create and publish your Music Development plan
3. Create a Music Subject Leader File for **all** documents





Additional Resources

- Music Audit Toolkit
- Music Development Plan Summary- Template
- Ofsted: A “Deep Dive” in Music
- Music Subject Leaders File Checklist







Contact

Samantha Ojokor

Email: Samanthaojokor@gmail.com

Mb: 07932783122

