Music development plan summary: Christ Church First School

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the national plan for music education:

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/2026
Date this summary was published	30.06.2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	30.06.2027
Name of the school music lead	J. Farrington
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Staffordshire
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

At Christ Church First School, all the children are taught by a music specialist who is employed by the school in order to deliver well-planned, high-quality provision. Music teaching delivers the requirements of the National Curriculum, under-pinned by the National Plan for Music Education. The Music Express scheme of work is used as a starting point to plan lessons and this is supplemented by specialist teacher subject knowledge. The scheme takes a holistic approach to music in which the individual strands are woven together to create engaging and enriching learning experiences.

Within the Early Years, music is an integral part of the children's learning journey. Rhyme and rhythm are utilised through the learning of phonics, mathematics and topic-related songs. These children also take part in a 30/40 minute (depending on the time of the year) music lesson delivered by the music specialist. Each class in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 are time-tabled direct music teaching of 1 hour per week. In addition to this, the children take part in singing/hymn practise on a weekly basis.

The aims of our music curriculum are to develop pupils who:

- Enjoy and have an appreciation for music.
- Listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, cultures, styles and traditions.
- Can sing and use their voice to create different effects.
- Create and compose music, both on their own and with others.
- Use a range of musical language.
- Make judgements and express personal preferences about the quality and style of music.
- Play tuned and untuned instruments accurately and with control.
- Learn to recognise and name interrelated dimensions of music – *pitch, duration, tempo, timbre, structure, textures* and *dynamics.*
- Take part in performances with an awareness of audience.

Children in Year 4 benefit from learning to play folk guitar on a weekly basis. Throughout the sessions, the interrelated elements of music are developed.

The music scheme of work is mapped so that all of the National Curriculum attainment targets and the overview of provision shows a clear progression of skills taught within each year group and how these develop year on year. Music lessons are broken down into half termly units with an emphasis on musical vocabulary, enabling the children to talk about pieces of music using the correct terminology. Each unit of work has an on-going musical learning focus and usually follows the sequence of:

- ✓ Listening and appraise.
- ✓ Musical activities linked to this week's skill.
- ✓ Playing instruments.
- ✓ Composition.
- ✓ Perform and share.

At Christ Church First School, we believe that music plays an integral role in helping children to feel part of a community. Therefore, across the year, opportunities are provided for all children to create, play, perform and enjoy music, both in class and to an audience. Through assemblies and celebratory performances such as Harvest, Christmas and Easter, children consolidate and showcase their talent along with their understanding of performing and awareness of others.

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 offer small-group peripatetic violin lessons run by the Music Service. These are not particularly popular but we feel it is important to offer this variety for our pupils. This is paid for by parents but children in receipt of PPG are subsidised and those in receipt of FSM are not charged.

We run an after-school guitar club which is open to all pupils in Year 3. This is free of charge.

School runs a choir and pupils from Y1-Y4 are welcome to join. They participate in a range of events in and out of school. There is no charge for this club but there are sometimes associated costs to cover transport to venues. We keep this at a minimum.

The choir joins forces with the children from all other local schools to perform in the Stone Christmas Lights Switch-On.

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.

The choir take part in a range of events – church services, Christmas light switch-on, the Eccleshall Music Festival. They perform at a number of residential homes over Christmas and at the local hospital.

Instrumentalists take part in church services.

We invite the peripatetic music teachers from the Music Service in once a year for their Music Live concert, where they talk about the instruments they play and also share professionally performed music with the children. Pupils have a chance to participate through creating a beat or clapping along – otherwise they are the audience.

There are opportunities for whole school singing in worship and during church services and family worship.

In the future

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

- We plan to offer the pupils the opportunity to see a professional orchestra perform. This will be investigated over the course of the academic year.
- We will seek more opportunities for the choir to perform at alternative venues.
- We will liaise with the children's ward at the hospital and visit at times other than Christmas – transport permitting
- Create an opportunity for further performances in conjunction with Trust Schools

Further information (optional)

We work with Entrust Music Services - Entrust | High-quality Music Education for Staffordshire schools and families

We work with the organisers of Eccleshall Music Festival