

Music development plan summary: Darwen St. James' Church of England Primary Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	December 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed--	December 2027
Name of the school music lead	Melissa Matthews
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Melissa Matthews
Name of local music hub	Blackburn and Bolton Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Blackburn and Bolton Music Hub

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

At Darwen St James, music is delivered through the Kapow curriculum. The Kapow Music Curriculum provides teachers with a clear sequence of musical activities to use in the classroom. It uses a skills-based approach where key musical concepts and themes are developed and revisited across the year groups, building on knowledge and understanding at every stage. Pupils receive weekly music provision through this scheme where all children are engaged in music making, which fosters their love of music and increases their self -confidence, creativity and sense of achievement. Our music provision is aimed to inspire all pupils regardless of their abilities. Children have the opportunity to sing, listen, compose and perform whilst studying the varied units with a development of skills progressing across each year group. Children are exposed to multicultural and world music styles as well as celebrating religious festivals and events.

Singing and listening are consolidated in school worship as well as being an integral part of the music curriculum and relevant adaptations are made where necessary to accommodate SEND and ensure inclusivity.

Practical music making takes place in most curriculum lessons and uses high quality musical resources. These music making skills are built upon as children progress through school thus ensuring a high-quality music offer.

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.

Our music offer extends to a recorder club. There are opportunities within school for children to perform marking important celebrations.

Community links with local primary schools.

Group or Individual instrumental tuition provision are signposted and take place at parents' discretion.

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 music offer gives our children a holistic musical experience and all pupils have many opportunities to take part in performances and productions throughout their time in school. These may be individual or class performances in celebration of events. We also embrace multi school concerts within the local community..

In the future

We plan to start a school choir who will perform at school events and in the local care home. We would also like to take the choir to Young Voices if we raise enough money for the transport.