

Music development plan summary: Middleton Parish Church School, Part of Forward As One CE MAT

Overview 2025-2026

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mr C Lloyd
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	-
Name of local music hub	Rochdale Music Service
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.

To read in more detail about the provision at Middleton Parish Church School, please visit our music curriculum page <https://www.middletonparishce.rochdale.sch.uk/our-school/curriculum/music>.

Music is taught in class weekly and is informed by the Kapow Music Curriculum. Children will perform, listen and analyse critically, sing, improvise and compose music, built around understanding the musical elements 'building blocks': pulse, rhythm, pitch, tempo, dynamics, texture, structure and timbre.

The school's music curriculum is underpinned by the Kapow Music Curriculum scheme of work, with the guidance and support of the music lead. The Kapow curriculum has been intentionally selected due to its spiral curriculum approach – this ensures that our pupils experience ever-

deepening learning and opportunities throughout their time at school. Learning is progressive, allowing pupils to build on their prior knowledge, experiences and application in different musical contexts.

In EYFS, music is delivered through holistic practice as an integral part of early development. Music is planned for across the four musical areas: Hearing & Listening, Vocalising & Singing, Moving & Dancing and Exploring & Playing. Invitations to engage with sound are built into pupils' continuous provision daily, as well as integrating singing across other subject areas, such as writing and Maths. This builds the musical foundations that are essential to access music lessons in KS1.

For lessons in KS1 and KS2, each lesson is built around a consistent structure: physical and vocal warmups, listening and responding to an unfamiliar piece of music, singing and either composing, performing or improvising. Lessons are a minimum of 45 minutes in length and are taught by class teachers or a music specialist. Each lesson allows pupils to develop their playing with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression. Listening develops aural memory and appreciation of different musical genres, and children develop an understanding of the history of music through using timelines to place and sequence pieces of music to identify links between them.

In Years 3 and 5, the children get the opportunity to work with Rochdale Music Service to learn to play an instrument. This includes djembe drums in Year 3 and trumpets in Year 5. Throughout the term, the children will learn a variety of songs to play on the instrument along with learning to sing a variety of songs which are then performed to parents/carers and children at an end of term performance.

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.

At Middleton Parish Church School, we currently offer individual lessons in KS2 through Rochdale Music Service. Instrumental teachers visit the school and teach children in a one-to-one session. If you have an enquiry regarding instrumental lessons on offer, please visit the website: <https://www.rochdale.gov.uk/rochdale-music-service>

We have a school choir as well as a school signing choir made up of children from Key Stage 2.

Beyond the core curriculum, all pupils in schools within the Forward as One Multi-Academy Trust are entitled to the FA1 Primary Pledge. This is a personal development commitment to ensure that all pupils encounter unique experiences that build upon their curriculum and enrich their lives.

Part C: Musical experiences and events

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.

Children will have the opportunity to perform or experience high quality music this academic year. Please see below for a list of these opportunities:

- All children from Nursery to Year 6 take part in weekly worship which includes singing a variety of worship songs that they will learn throughout their time at Middleton Parish.
- Singing is a key feature of FA1's Trust Worship. These are held termly, and all schools, governors and parents/guardians are invited to attend. Songs are released prior to the worship so that all pupils can learn the songs and actions.
- The choir and/or signing choir perform at both in school and out of school events.
- Key Stage 2 children rehearse and take part in the Big Sing at Audacious Church in Manchester each Christmas time. This gives pupils the opportunity to perform to a wide audience, collaborating with other musicians and schools.

In the future

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

In future years, our Music development Plan aims to achieve the following:

- Introduction of a wider range of instruments on offer for small group or individual lessons.
- Broaden the whole class instrumental lessons with Rochdale Music Service to more than 2 year groups.
- Further enhance performance opportunities for children throughout the school year.
- Broaden the range of extra-curricular music opportunities available to pupils, with a greater variety of singing/instrumental sessions and for more age ranges.
- Continue to develop staff expertise in the deliver music lessons and develop how music learning is recorded.

Further information (optional)

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 you can go to for support beyond the school.