

Music development plan summary: St Bernard's Catholic Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	June 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2025
Name of the school music lead	Miss Mooney
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Lancashire 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.

In EYFS the main focus is singing and rhythm, although there are opportunities to explore instruments through some music lessons and continuous provision. In EYFS there is one short discrete music lesson which increases in length throughout the year. In addition, singing takes place throughout the school day, often linked to other learning opportunities, such as the singing of number rhymes. All our pupils are taught to listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses; sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody; they explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo or in groups.

Within our curriculum music in KS1 and KS2, we teach all aspects of National Curriculum music and adhere to the recommendations in the Model Music Curriculum 2021.

Curriculum music in our school is taught for at least one hour each week in KS1 and KS2; this includes a 30 minute weekly music lesson plus at least 5 minutes listening and singing to music each day during assemblies and worship.

In EYFS, KS1 and KS2, every music lesson in our school will include the teaching of singing and opportunities for listening/appraising. In EYFS/KS1, each lesson will also include a focus on rhythm and beat. In addition, music lessons will either have a focus on playing (including formal music notation, especially in KS2) or improvising or composing; sometimes a combination.

In KS2, there will be a balance of playing, improvising and composition across the year; some music Charanga units focus on one element more than another. In KS1, there is less focus on playing and a greater focus on musicianship (i.e. pulse/beat, rhythm and pitch) in line with the Model Music Curriculum. However, there is still a focus on improvisation and composition in KS1 (although this requires further development).

Our music medium term plans (on our school website <https://st-bernards.lancs.sch.uk/curriculum/our-curriculum-learning-journeys/music>) detail how we teach music each half term and ensure that we teach age appropriate singing, listening, performing, reading notation, music technology, improvising and composing (the latter two require improvement in all classes); when appropriate we make links to the half-termly theme, especially through our singing and listening. Our medium term plans follow the recommendations of the Model Music Curriculum 2021.

In our MTPs we learn about and explore music from different cultures (for example, Chinese music, Samba from Brazil, music from Africa, music from the Caribbean) although this should be developed further.

Singing is a strength of the school. Children sing in curriculum music, in worship and in concerts. Children sing songs recommended in the Model Music Curriculum, for example, children learn to sing rounds in Y3/4 and increase the range of notes as the pupils get older. Charanga provide a good support for non-music specialists in curriculum Music. TenTen provide a good support for non-music specialists in worship.

All pupils in KS1 and KS2 have access to guitar or drum lessons taught a music specialist. Instruments used are class sets of recorders and glockenspiels plus a variety of untuned percussion, all owned by the school.

All pupil premium children are fully engaged with curriculum music. All SEN pupils have been able to fully access curriculum music.

We use the following Key resources: Charanga (especially for music instrumental teaching).

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.

All our pupils sing tunefully and with confidence in worship; pupils sing to backing tracks.

We use singing to help 'sticky' learning in other subjects through, for example, songs which link to our history topic, songs which help us to learn the names of the oceans and/or continents in geography.

A singing group/choir led by a member of staff (or a specialist teacher) meet to sing/practise once a week. Children perform in concerts, in church and in the community (EG. at Christmas time).

A guitar and drum teacher from Jopson Music teach private music lessons once a week (paid for by parents). All pupils learning guitar and drums are provided with an instrument through the music service.

Pupils that sing in the choir, perform for the school and parents once a year in a concert.

Pupils perform in a production at least six times during primary school; Reception spring play; Infant Nativity (involved in three Nativity plays); Christmas Coral service (Y3 and 4); leavers production (involving Y6) + class assemblies for school and parents.

Pupil premium pupils are able to access free music tuition (guitar or drums) in school time.

Currently, we do not have a school orchestra, although this may change.

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.

All our pupils perform in a production at least six times during their time at primary school; Reception spring play; Infant Nativity; Advent service(Y3 and Y4); talent Show; End of KS2 Leavers' production (involving Y6) + class assemblies and Mass for school and parents.

All pupils have the opportunity to listen to live music in and out of school i.e.

- our pupils and music perform for parents and the school;

All of KS1 and KS2 have a visit from a theatre group each year which always includes actor musicians playing instruments as part of the performance. Our children will experience this seven times in Primary School.

In partnership with PE we realise the importance of dance and moving expressively to music. Dance is taught as part of our PE curriculum to a range of different musical styles, for example Street Dance. Specialist dance teachers have come into school to teach the children a range of dances to a range of musical styles.

KS1 take part in Irish Dancing during the Spring term and perform for the whole school at the end of the term.

Parents are charged for visits, i.e. theatre and to watch a concert. Pupil Premium children are able to access these experiences free of charge.

In the future

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

Funding for music is part of our school budget. Some fundraising takes place in concerts and Talent shows. The PTFA may be encouraged to raise money for music in school.

Planning for autumn term 2025.

Through the Music Service, we will engage pupils will continue to learn the recorder & further recorders will need to be purchased to allow for this. Charanga will be used to support the teaching of whole class recorders. This will begin in September 2024.

We will strengthen links with local high schools especially to provide more opportunities for listening to live music; we will also ensure that all children have at least one opportunity (if not more) to visit a concert hall and listen to a live orchestra. We will explore other opportunities for high quality musicians to perform for the children in school. Miss Mooney will be able to explore options from September 2024.

We will improve our teaching of music technology through the use of Garage Band..... Using Garage Band will also support teachers in teaching elements of composition and the teaching of Music technology

We will need to improve the teaching of composing across the school; composing in KS2 can be taught through music technology.

We need to improve the assessment of music.

In future years, we will explore the opportunity of starting a school orchestra.

We need to create a timetable of current music experiences, i.e. experiencing a live orchestra in a concert hall and upload to the school website.

We need to increase opportunities for our children to experience and explore music from different cultures beyond what is currently in our curriculum.

Further information

We receive support from Lancashire Music Hub. We have signposted our pupils to the lessons taught through Jopson Music Service (who come into school).