



Music development plan summary: St James Catholic Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Bekki Conroy
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	South Tyneside Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

Vision and Intent

‘Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity’ National Curriculum 2014. At St James, we strive to make music enjoyable and accessible to all pupils. We know the value that music can have on our pupils’ mental health and well-being and as such, our music curriculum intends to inspire self-expression, creativity and allows children to connect with others. We hope to foster a lifelong love of music by exposing them to diverse musical experiences from a range of singers, performers, composers and backgrounds to incite a passion for music.

At St James’s, our intent is that every pupil is a musician, developing as a performer, singer and composer; with the ability to listen and to critically analyse music. The National Curriculum is at the heart of the document, developing lesson by lesson and building on the ambition of the Model Music Curriculum.

Singing is a “Golden Thread” (National Plan for Music Education) ensuring that pupils sing and develop their technique every lesson. Pupils will develop deep musical knowledge of music through demonstrating the musical skills they have learnt.

The three pillars of learning; technical, constructive, and expressive are all embedded through practical music making and analysis. By giving explicit singing and listening examples we are making sure that pupils are exposed to a breadth of musical styles and genres, embedding the work of the great composers as key artists in that particular style.

High quality music teaching is our goal, making sure that there is progression between all Key stages, ensuring standard use of vocabulary and being explicit in the musical

knowledge and skills pupils will learn by the end of KS2, ensuring continued high-quality music teaching at Key stage 3 through deeply embedded skills. Repetition and incremental improvement are key to effective music learning, making sure that deep knowledge is embedded and that pupils don't purely experience music.

Part A: Curriculum music

Music is inclusive for all learners and music is taught weekly for every year group. Class teachers deliver the music curriculum from EYFS to Year 6.

Additionally, our Music Specialist from South Tyneside Music Service supports us on a weekly basis with singing.

The school music curriculum is broken down into the 7 threshold concepts:

1. Pitch
2. Rhythm
3. Melody
4. Active listening and appraising
5. Performing
6. Singing.
7. Composition

Progress maps demonstrate the expected outcome for each pupil at the end of year group, giving clear outcomes based on technical, constructive, and expressive skills. This will be achieved overtime through repetition of exercises.

Through toolkits linked to this progress map we teach music through 4 identified components which cover the knowledge, skills and understanding set out the National Curriculum and Foundation Stage Statutory Framework. Each toolkit contains 4 components, each containing key skills (such as singing, listening, and composing) to develop as musicians.

Pupils will be able performers moving from confidence in Rhythm and pulse in Year 1 and 2, Pitch and Melody in Year 3 and 4 and then developing a rounded musician at Year 5 and 6.

Pupils will sing, perform, compose, and appraise confidently having been nurtured as musicians. Controlling the sound is key to pupils demonstrating their development and ability as musicians, having more control and the intent of the music.

We teach music to all children in accordance with the school curriculum policy of providing a broad and balanced education to all children.

Part B: Extra-curricular music

To raise the profile and further engage our children in music we also offer a range activity throughout the year.

- Children across all year groups produce a nativity and carol concerts which can be attended by parents and carer.
- Music played during assemblies and Celebration of the Word encourages children to sing and perform

Music outcomes are often shared and performed either live to parents, SLT, other pupils or recorded and shared with families via Facebook or on the school website.

Part C: Musical Enrichment

To raise the profile and further engage our children in Music we also offer a range of musical experiences throughout the year such as:

- Children experience live music and performing through live bands through the Different Voices project
- KS1 and 2 will have the opportunity to perform at the Customs House through participating in the South Tyneside Music Festival
- Year 5 take part in the South Tyneside Dance Festival during the summer term.

Year 6 take part in an annual end of summer term production term for parents/carers and the rest of the school

In the future

Curriculum Music:

- Investigate and develop access to specialist instrumental teaching for whole school and individuals.
- Staff CPD and training to develop the use of recordings for reflection and self-evaluation using Book Creator.
- Create, share and embed list of questions to use for reflecting critically on learning.
- Create a Music display in school to support learning – clear elements with appropriate language, including skills, rhythm and school terminology.

Extra-Curricular Music

- Re-introduce Singing After School club.

Music Enrichment

- Look for opportunities to attend and participate in off site or on-site musical workshops for all year groups.