

Music development plan summary:

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Preston

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024/2025
Date this summary was published	July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Louise Heys
Name of local music hub	Lancashire 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

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 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. The Nursery children also receive a weekly visit from 'Jo Jingles' who allows the children to explore music, singing and movement in a creative and interactive way. Our music curriculum is taught through Charanga in KS1 and KS2, we teach all aspects of National Curriculum music and implement some of the recommendations from the Model Music Curriculum 2021.

Curriculum music in our school is taught on an alternate half term basis and consists of a 45 minute – 1 hour weekly lesson during that half term, this is in both KS1 and KS2.

The children additionally have at least 30 minutes of singing opportunities throughout the week during assemblies etc. 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 units focus on one element more than another.

LKS2 children receive a weekly whole class cornet lesson – this is taught by a music specialist provided by Lancashire Music Service and each class receive a term of lessons. The specialist teacher focuses on rhythm, notation, pulse and tempo, as well as teaching the playing of the cornet. Each child has their own individual instrument which allows them to receive individual feedback and support from the music specialist.

Our music medium term plans (on our school website – <https://www.sjps.lancs.sch.uk/music-at-st-josephs/>) 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. Throughout the year, the children learn about and explore music from a range of different genres and cultures (for example, jazz, reggae, folk, South African, Motown, blues, hip-hop, rock, rap, pop). The children also have the opportunity to listen to different genres of music in our assemblies.

Singing is very important part of our school life. Children sing in curriculum music, in assemblies and in end of term performances and at community events.

Each Key Stage also takes part in musical performances throughout the year, EYFS/KS1/KS2 in the Autumn term and year 3/4 in the Spring Term.

All pupils in KS1 and KS2 have access to whole-class instrument lessons using glockenspiels and recorders. These lessons are taught by class teachers and monitored by the music subject lead. The Charanga music scheme is used to support the whole class teaching of glockenspiels and recorders.

Children in KS1 and KS2 experience and are encouraged to develop their use of Music Technology through our computing curriculum

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

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.

A private ukulele and guitar teacher delivers individual lessons to a number of KS1 and KS2 children once a week (paid for by parents), there is some pupil premium children who receive these for free.

All our pupils sing tunefully and with confidence in lessons and assemblies. 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 and times tables songs in maths lessons.

A choir led by the music lead meet to sing/practise once a week. Children perform in assemblies and in the community (for example at St. Walburge's Christmas service and at the local supermarket). We also take part in 'Let's go sing' which is a Lancashire wide singing event and gives the children the opportunity to perform on stage at venues such as King Georges Hall and the Winter Gardens. The choir also recently took part in the first 'Preston Sings' event, which was themed around the Olympics and involved the children learning songs from different cultures and places around the world. We are hoping this will become an annual event that the choir will take part in.

Pupils perform in a number of productions during primary school. EYFS/ KS1 Nativity (involved in three Nativity plays) and a Y3/4 production.

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.

Every whole school assembly, the children are encouraged to join in with singing a varied mix of hymns, traditional song and popular songs with relevant ambience or mood to suit the assembly or message being delivered. This is from a range of time periods, styles and cultures. Pupils perform in a number of productions during primary school. EYFS/ KS1 Nativity (involved in three Nativity plays) and Y3/4/ production.

This year the children will travel to Bolton Theatre to watch a performance of a pantomime which involves live music and audience participation. 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 and it also used as warm up's during each P.E. lesson.

The children who take part in the private ukulele and guitar lessons perform for the rest of the school and their parents each term. This is an opportunity for these children to showcase the skills they have been practising each week.

In the future

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

Our school aims to enhance the future of our music curriculum in several ways.

We would like the children to have more involvement in music technology, through programmes such as YuStudio or Garage Band. This will be introduced into lessons (especially in KS2) and will give children the opportunity to compose and produce their own music.

Music and Music Technology will also be continued to be implemented into other lessons such as Guided Reading, Computing, R.E. and Spanish.

Next year, during assemblies we intend to expose the children to a range of classical music – focusing on different composers and periods of time each week.

We would also like to organise more concerts and celebrations within school, allowing children frequent opportunities to showcase their talents. Celebrating school achievements within assemblies is also a priority, allowing us to recognise and appreciate our children's musical accomplishments.