

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

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Anna Hambling
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

At St. Oswald'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 incremental improvement 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 consistently in every year group every week across the year and is evident in the schools' timetable.

Music is taught weekly, with each class participating in 1 x 60minute lessons. A Music Specialists class teacher delivers the music curriculum to all year groups ensuring high quality learning is taking place.

During Music lessons at St Oswald's, children have the opportunity to play recorders, xylophones and a range of percussion instruments as whole class instrumental learning (CIL). Children also have the opportunity to sing and perform a range of songs.

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

Our progress map demonstrates 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 in 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 our school curriculum policy of providing a broad and balanced education to all children. Teachers provide learning opportunities matched to need of the children with barriers to their learning and our work in music considers the targets set for individual children in their support plans.

Part B: Co-curricular music

To raise the profile and further engage our children in Music we also offer a range of activities throughout the year.

We use the whole school's skills to perform in the Christmas Productions singing and whole school assemblies. The music played during assemblies and Celebration of the word encourages children to sing and perform.

Musical themed days are celebrated across the school year and these have the opportunity for children to learn and perform songs related to these themes.

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 have opportunities to attend our weekly school choir after school which is free.

Music outcomes are often shared and performed to parents, SLT, governors, staff and other pupils.

Part C: Musical experiences.

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

- Through St. Oswald's partnership with South Tyneside Music Festival, KS1 and KS2 children will have the opportunity to participate in the music festival at The Customs House, performing a range of songs to an audience.
- Children in the choir have performed at various event for our trust, Bishop Chadwick's Catholic Education Trust, including Durham Cathedral, O2 City Hall and Newcastle Cathedral.
- Year 6 will be performing a show at the end of the Summer term for Parents and the rest of the school.
- The school choir have been invited to perform at one of South Tyneside's Remembrance Day services at West Park in November and at the Town Hall for a local charity presentation event which allows children to perform to audiences in our local community.
- The choir will also perform several times over the festive period (Civic carol concert, Salvation Army Christmas Concert.)
- The choir have also performed for the rest of school and our visitors during our churches 60th Birthday Celebrations.

- All children in Key Stage 2 have the opportunity to attend a live concert with the Royal Northern Symphonia and The Glasshouse in Gateshead. This allows them to attend a world class venue to watch live musicians perform whilst also offering additional repertoire to listen to and evaluate.

In the future.

Curriculum Music:

- Increase use of recordings for reflection and self-evaluation.
- Staff CPD and training on use of iPad/recording and what to use for it.
- Create a Music display in school to support learning - clear elements with appropriate language, including skills, rhythm and school terminology.

Extra-Curricular Music

- Identify a time to offer small group recorder lessons in KS2.

Music Enrichment

- Look for opportunities for Key Stage 1 to attend live music events in the area.
Look for music workshops for children across all key stages which may be funded by parent contributions