

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School



St Teresa's
Catholic Primary School



Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust

School music development plan

This development plan has been created in line with the DfE's [‘School music development plan: summary template’](#). Schools can use this template to ensure that integral features of its music curriculum are met to help pupils receive a varied and enriching musical education, both inside and outside of the classroom. Schools are expected to publish a summary of the music development plan on their website for staff and pupils to read and understand.

This development plan considers the seven key features of high-quality music provision, as laid out in the national plan for music education:

- Timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for KS1 to KS3.
- Access to lessons across a range of instruments, including singing.
- A school choir or vocal ensemble.
- A school ensemble, band or group.
- Space for rehearsals and individual practice.
- A termly school performance.
- Opportunities to enjoy live music performances, at least once a year.

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

Music Development Plan

General overview	
Details of music development plan	Information
Academic year that this development plan covers	2025 - 2026
Date this development plan was published	9 th June 2025
Date this development plan will be reviewed	9 th June 2026
Name of the school music lead	Kathryn Gibson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music	
Name of local music hub	Durham and Darlington Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisations	
Vision and Overall Objectives	
At our school, the vision for music education is to foster a vibrant and inclusive musical environment where every student is inspired to develop their musical talents, build confidence, and embrace the joy of creativity. By integrating music into the fabric of our school community, we aim to enrich students' lives, deepen their cultural understanding, and encourage their growth as independent, self-assured learners. Our music provision will be rooted in our Catholic values, providing opportunities for personal and communal expression, and celebrating the diverse musical heritage that shapes our global society.	
Core Components	
Music curriculum – minimum of 1hr per week per class Classroom instrumental teaching Progression from classroom instrumental teaching	

Small group & 1-1 teaching
 Extra-curricular music
 Visiting music teachers - Links with local music hub
 Whole school singing assemblies
 Performance opportunities
 School music squad (choir)

A clear and comprehensive scheme of work will be delivered, based around a new scheme of work, in line with the National Curriculum but also drawing on other sources. Teaching and learning will show progression across all Key Stages within the multiple strands of music. Singing and chanting will be at the heart of much of the children's learning, developing spoken language skills with an increasing awareness of vocabulary, rhyme, and rhythm. Singing will not only take place in music lessons but, when appropriate links can be made, in other subjects such as French and Art. Children listen to and perform liturgical music and visiting teachers from Carmel College work with children to rehearse for the Carmel summer show.

From Foundation Stage to Upper Key Stage 2, children will have the opportunity to experience a range of tuned and untuned percussion instruments and learn how to use resources purposefully. Children will develop an increasing musical vocabulary and learn how to read and notate music in traditional and non-traditional forms. Professional, visiting teachers from Durham Music Service will work predominantly with Years 1 and 2. Children will have opportunities to hear live music being performed and opportunities to perform in larger, external events. Children can access extra-curricular musical participation opportunities such as choir, giving them the opportunity of performing to both the school community and others in the local community. Performing to unfamiliar groups helps build self-confidence and a real sense of achievement. Visiting teachers will come into school and teach individual instruments (cello and brass) to those children who wish to learn them. A love of playing an instrument will be promoted and children will be encouraged in their ability to play as a form of expression.

Part A: Curriculum music

Development Priority (questions to consider when identifying priorities)	Action Implementation Strategies	Outcomes	Responsibility & Costs	Date/ timescale
Has the music curriculum been adjusted to make it more accessible for pupils with specific needs, e.g. SEND?	The music curriculum is to be delivered to meet varying levels of ability, allowing for multiple ways to engage with music. Using visual, auditory, and kinaesthetic methods to make music more engaging for all students. Providing modified instruments that are easier to play for students with physical challenges. Designing activities that allow every child to participate, regardless of their individual needs.	All children, regardless of specific needs will be included and celebrated in music lessons.	Class teacher Music Lead No costs	July 2026

<i>Does the curriculum clarify how much time is allocated per week for music teaching across all key stages?</i>	The model music curriculum states: At Key Stages 1 and 2, pupils should receive a minimum of one hour of teaching a week; this may take the form of short sessions spread across the week. These sessions are to be delivered by classroom teachers or during teacher PPA by a HLTA and visiting teachers from Durham music service.	The use of DMS will ensure quality music education delivered by experts. Regular music sessions will enhance student interest and improve musical skills.	Class Teacher Music Lead No costs	July 2026
<i>Is the music curriculum informed by the model music curriculum or any other non-statutory guidance for teaching music?</i>	The school will invest into a new music scheme which is designed to meet the model music curriculum. KS1 pupils will experience music delivered by Durham Music Service. The sessions delivered by DMS are designed to meet the objectives of the national curriculum	Children will be exposed to all areas of the music curriculum.	Class Teacher Music Lead No costs	July 2026
<i>What opportunities do pupils have to learn to sing or play an instrument during lesson times?</i>	All children will have the opportunity to sing and play an instrument during music lessons. KS1 will primarily use untuned percussions instruments, KS2 will use glockenspiels.	Children will have experience of a variety of instruments.	Class Teacher Music Lead No costs	July 2026
<i>What partnerships support the school's music curriculum, e.g. a local music hub?</i>	The school is supported by visiting teachers from Durham Music Service	Music teaching will be supported by expert visiting teachers.	Durham Music Service No costs	July 2026

Part B: Extra-curricular music

Development Priority (questions to consider when identifying priorities)	Action Implementation Strategies	Outcomes	Responsibility and costs	Date/ timescale
---	---	-----------------	-------------------------------------	----------------------------

<i>What music tuition offered outside of what is taught in lesson time?</i>	Visiting teachers will come into school and teach individual instruments (cello and brass) to those children who wish to learn them.	This additional opportunity will allow those who wish to pursue and make more progress in music to do so.	Music Lead DMS Cost to the pupil	July 2026
<i>What music ensembles can pupils join outside of lesson time?</i>	The school music squad will allow the children the opportunity to be part of a school choir.	Children will be able to improve music and singing skills as well as build confidence.	Music Lead DMS No costs	July 2026
<i>Are pupils aware of how they can make progress in music outside of lesson time?</i>	Pupils will be offered the opportunity to participate in additional music tuition offered by Durham Music Service. Pupils are also encouraged to join the school choir to make further progress in music.	Children who wish to do so will join the choir or private tuition.	Music Lead DMS No costs	July 2026
<i>Are pupils aware of what music qualifications and awards they can receive outside of lesson time?</i>	Pupils undertaking private tuition receive termly awards and certificates to award their efforts and progress. These are the 'Durham Music Service Stars Awards'. Pupils can work to achieve their graded musical exams via other external providers.	Pupils feel rewarded and encourage to continue pursuing music.	Durham Music Service	July 2026
<i>What instruments are offered for extra-curricular activities, and what is the charging and remissions information for this?</i>	Durham music service provides instruments for music tuition offered outside of lesson time. This is provided at a cost.	Children will have the ability to learn/practice an instrument without the need to purchase one.	Music Lead DMS	July 2026
<i>How can pupils join choirs or ensembles, and what is the charging and remissions information for this?</i>	The school choir is open to all KS2 pupils and is free of charge.	All Ks2 children, regardless of ability will be able to be part of the choir.	Music Lead DMS No costs	July 2026

<i>Where can pupils rehearse or practice individually or as part of a group?</i>	The school choir will rehearse weekly in a classroom.	Children have an ideal space to rehearse and practice.	Music Lead No costs	July 2026
Part C: Musical experiences				
Development Priority <i>(questions to consider when identifying priorities)</i>	Action Implementation Strategies	Outcomes	Responsibility and costs	Date/ timescale
<i>What musical experiences are planned for the academic year?</i>	School choir will attend Carmel Festival of Choirs. School choir will have performances recorded and shared on school social media. Visiting teachers will provide musical workshops. All children are given the opportunity to sing as a school family during whole school masses. School choir will be offered the opportunity to sing during whole school masses. Children will be given the opportunity to put on an end of term performance, showcasing their learning during their music lessons.	Children will be offered a variety of musical experiences to enhance their skills and enrich their life experience.	Music Lead Class Teacher No costs	September 2025
<i>How can pupils get involved with musical performances and concerts in and outside of the school?</i>	KS2 children can get involved with musical performances and concerts by joining the school choir. Children will also be part of musical performances when they participate in class-led liturgical prayers and celebrations of the word.	Children experience musical performance as part of the catholic life of the school and can enhance this with choir experience.	Music Lead Class Teacher No costs	September 2025
<i>What charging fees are there for these musical experiences?</i>	These additional musical experiences are provided free of charge.	All children have access to additional musical experiences.	Music Lead No costs	September 2025
<i>What does transition work look like with local secondary schools?</i>	Pupils are encouraged to continue pursuing music, children who undertake private tuition experience a transition with Durham Music Service and their lessons continue at secondary school.	Children are able to continue music sessions into secondary school	DMS Music Lead	September 2025

Part D: Improvements

Development Priority <i>(questions to consider when identifying priorities)</i>	Action Implementation Strategies	Outcomes	Responsibility and costs	Date/ timescale
What improvements can be made to the music curriculum?	<p>Introducing a new music scheme into St Teresa's offers significant benefits for both pupils and staff. Recent feedback from staff and pupils highlighted gaps in the existing curriculum, noting that it did not fully engage students, address their diverse musical interests or suit their abilities. By selecting and investing in a new music scheme, the school can provide a more inclusive, engaging, and comprehensive musical education.</p> <p>The new scheme will be carefully chosen to meet the varied needs of all pupils, from beginners to more advanced learners, ensuring progression in skills such as rhythm, melody, and composition. It will also incorporate a range of musical styles and cultural perspectives, fostering creativity and broadening students' musical horizons. For staff, the scheme will offer clear guidance, lesson plans, and resources, reducing planning time and enhancing teaching confidence.</p> <p>Implementation will begin in September 2025, allowing time for staff training and resource preparation over the summer term. Regular monitoring and evaluation will be embedded to ensure the scheme's effectiveness and to adapt to emerging needs. Ultimately, this new music scheme aims to inspire a lifelong love of music, improve musical literacy, and contribute positively to pupils' overall development and well-being.</p>	<p>Introducing the new music scheme will boost pupil engagement and improve musical skills by better meeting their interests and needs. It will support diverse abilities and backgrounds, fostering inclusivity and creativity. Pupils will gain confidence in performing, composing, and listening, enhancing their overall development. Staff will benefit from clearer guidance and resources, reducing workload and increasing teaching confidence. This will improve the quality of music education and help establish a stronger school music culture, with more opportunities</p>	<p>Music Lead Class Teacher No additional costs</p>	July 2026

		for performances and community involvement. Ongoing monitoring will ensure the scheme remains effective and inspiring for future students		
What improvements can be made to extra-curricular music provision?	<p>We will continue to expand opportunities for the school choir to perform at a variety of events, both within the school and in the broader community. These performances will be embedded in key school events, including assemblies, masses, awards ceremonies, and community functions, helping to create a more vibrant school culture that celebrates music as a core part of student life. By increasing the frequency and variety of choir performances, we will give choir members regular opportunities to build their confidence, stage presence, and collaborative skills, while also enriching the school community's experience of the arts.</p> <p>We will continue to collaborate with the Durham Music Service to introduce students to a variety of musical instruments and provide pathways for them to explore music more deeply. This partnership will allow our pupils to gain hands-on exposure to different instruments, including strings, brass, woodwinds, and percussion, providing them with the opportunity to try out and familiarize themselves with these instruments under expert guidance. The goal is to ignite their interest in learning music and encourage them to pursue formal lessons, either through school programs or external avenues facilitated by the Durham Music Service.</p>	<p>Introducing children to the range of musical instruments available for learning, we anticipate an increase in students' interest and participation in music education. This will enrich their musical knowledge but also offer them hands-on opportunities to explore and select instruments that align with their interests and talents. As a result, students will become more engaged in music lessons, which can improve their overall academic and personal development, including boosting confidence, creativity, and teamwork.</p> <p>By providing more opportunities for the</p>	<p>Music Lead</p> <p>No costs</p>	July 2026

		<p>school choir to perform at various events such as assemblies, masses, awards ceremonies, and community gatherings, the students involved in the choir will gain valuable performance experience, which will help build their confidence, presentation skills, and sense of community. These performances will foster a deeper connection between the school and the wider community, promote school spirit, and highlight the importance of arts and culture within the school curriculum</p>		
<p>What improvements can be made to external musical experiences?</p>	<p>Pupil voice will be gathered Summer Term 2025 to gather pupils' ambitions and the genre of external music experiences they would enjoy.</p> <p>To broaden students' understanding and appreciation of music, we will actively seek out more external musical experiences that expose them to a wide range of musical styles, contexts, and applications. The goal is to help children see how music is not just an academic subject, but a powerful tool for storytelling, cultural expression, emotional communication, and creativity. By offering these diverse experiences, we aim to foster a deeper connection to music</p>	<p>This area of development will result in a more enriched, diverse music education program, where students are exposed to a wide range of musical applications and experiences. We expect this to foster a lifelong appreciation for</p>	<p>Music Lead</p> <p>Potential costs for visiting workshops.</p>	<p>July 2026</p>

	<p>and demonstrate its value in various professional, artistic, and everyday settings. One key element of this strategy will involve arranging workshops and performances that go beyond traditional music lessons, giving pupils insight into how music interacts with other art forms and disciplines. For instance, we will invite professionals from the world of musical theatre to host interactive workshops where students can learn how music is used to enhance storytelling in plays and musicals.</p>	<p>music, a heightened sense of creativity, and a broader awareness of how music can influence various aspects of life and culture. Additionally, these experiences will help develop critical thinking, empathy, and communication skills, all of which will contribute to students' personal and academic growth.</p>		
--	---	---	--	--