

Music development plan summary: SS Peter and Paul Catholic Primary School



Vision and Intent

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.

Overview

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

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.

At Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Primary our curriculum plan is based on the National Curriculum for Music as well as being guided by the Model Music Curriculum and the OFSTED research review into Music. Our curriculum has been written in conjunction with both Primary and Secondary colleagues in the Bishop Chadwick Catholic Educational Trust (BCCET).

We follow a whole school progression map which outlines the development of skills across the whole school. Each year group follows termly toolkits to guide their lesson planning and to ensure there is breadth and depth to the curriculum.

In music, there are seven key interrelated threshold concepts, which when combined, ensure that our students can access a deep understanding of the subject. The threshold concepts relate to core aspects of disciplinary knowledge and substantive knowledge. As students progress through the curriculum narratives, so should their understanding of the threshold concepts: pitch, rhythm, melody, active listening and appraising, performing, singing and composition. These interrelated dimensions of music weave through all of the termly units to encourage the development of musical skills as the learning progresses incrementally.

In EYFS, students will begin to develop their understanding of the musical world. They will learn how to sing a range of well-known nursery rhymes and songs and will explore how to perform songs and rhymes trying to move in time with music. Pupils will be encouraged to make music using a range of tuned/untuned musical instruments and will begin to explore the threshold concepts focussing on pulse.

We teach music to all children, whatever their ability, in accordance with the school curriculum policy of providing a broad and balanced education to all children. Teachers therefore provide learning opportunities adapted to meet the needs of all children. Music is a skills based subject and must be engaged with and taught practically. We demonstrate this through the spiral of learning, adding to musical concepts throughout the curriculum but ensuring previous knowledge and skills continue to be developed. The Charanga scheme of work is used to support music teaching across the school.

Children receive 1 hour of music teaching per week, broken down into two shorter sessions where applicable. These sessions are delivered by either class teachers or our external provider, Tardis Education. Year groups 3, 4 and 5 are taught by Tardis for 2 terms and the class teacher for the third.

Each week we have a whole school singing assembly where children listen to a variety of music, are taught to warm up their voices and develop their singing skills through a variety of song styles.

Through the explicit teaching of music skills, both the teachers and the pupils assess their learning continuously throughout the lesson. Our assessment systems enable teachers to make informed judgements about the depth of their learning and the progress they have made over time. Music is monitored throughout all year groups using a variety of strategies such as sampling of recorded material collected in eBooks, lesson observations and pupil interviews.

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.

Children are offered the opportunity to study a musical instrument in a small group (clarinet, guitar and violin) with peripatetic teachers from our local music hub. School subsidise the tuition to enable the experience to be more accessible to our pupils. Each lesson costs £3 and parents pay for a term of tuition at a time. We offer additional financial support to our pupil premium students. Instruments are on loan from our local music hub and parents sign an agreement to look after the instrument while in their care.

When children have acquired some competence the peripatetic teachers often sign post them to our local wind band where they can further develop their skills and experience playing as part of an ensemble.

In the Summer Term we hold a recital where all children are given the opportunity to perform to the wider school community.

Our school also has whole class ensemble teaching in Year 4 where children are taught the violin alongside their music lesson. These lessons incorporate teaching musical notation, singing, as well as learning to play an instrument. We have found this an effective way for all children to experience learning an instrument and experience the challenges and joys that it can bring. Many are then inspired to carry on playing the violin the following year and will join the small group tuition. Year 4 perform as a class in February each year.

We have a dedicated space for music tuition and smaller rooms are timetabled over the week for 1:1 and small group lessons to take place.

Opportunities are taken to perform in class, in whole assemblies and also to parents and the wider community.

Our Key Stage 2 Choir rehearses weekly after school in the hall. This is a free session subsidised by school. Our choir perform regularly in school and at events in the local and wider community.

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.

School choir is an established feature of our music making, where a high standard of achievement is expected. The choir is selected from the children in Key Stage 2. Our choir performs in a variety of events over the year. Some regular commitments are: 'Carols by Candlelight' at St Paul's, Jarrow in December, Festive singing at The Word, Carol singing in our local care home and the South Tyneside Schools Music Festival in March. Our Year 2 children perform at the South Tyneside Infant Music Festival each year in March.

Music plays an integral part in our daily worship as a Catholic school. In school masses, celebration of the word and other collective worship, we listen to and use music for reflection, as well as singing hymns and songs together. Reception and KS1 children retell the story of the Nativity each year and sing as an ensemble some traditional and modern music. KS2 also perform carols before the whole school Christmas Mass. During Holy Week, Y3 and 4 sing and perform Easter Praise. The whole school community and parishioners are invited to this performance which takes place in church. Music and singing are an intrinsic part of the assembly and celebration of the word that each class leads over the year.

Year 5 and 6 perform a musical in the summer term in which they can showcase their skills and talents.

As part of the Bishop Chadwick Catholic Education Trust our children also have the opportunity to be part of Trust wide choral ensembles and have performed at both Durham Cathedral and Rainton Arena.

In the future

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

We have worked closely with a local singer/songwriter to explore our local history and heritage through storytelling and song. Our next project is entitled 'Read it, Write it, Tell it, Love it' and will involve bringing the children and Parents/Grandparents/Parishioners of our schools together to tell the story of our industrial heritage through story and song.

Last year all children enjoyed an African drumming assembly and some took part in follow up workshops. We would like to develop more opportunities like this for children to experience live music in its various styles.