

Music development plan summary: St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Blackbrook

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2023-2024
Date this summary was published	July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Amin
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs Ashton/ Mrs Amin
Name of local music hub	St Helens Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	School Music Service

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 St Mary's Catholic Primary School, we offer outstanding provision for music for all children from EYFS to Year 6. Class teachers ensure that Music is timetabled for broadly 1 hour per week (Lessons, Assemblies, School Masses, Performances). The School Music Curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum using Charanga's Model Music Curriculum scheme, BBC Ten Pieces and Wider Opportunities to inform planning across the school.

All pupils are given the opportunity to sing or play an instrument during lesson time, with progression of skills clearly mapped out and monitored by observations and pupil voice. Year 4 have access to whole class Strings tuition provided by St Helens Music Hub. At St Mary's, children enjoy playing a wide variety of instruments such as Guitar, Keyboard, Strings (Violin, Viola, and Cello), Ukulele and the Glockenspiel.

Teachers effectively use CPD to enhance their practice to improve outcomes for pupils. CPD is directly aligned to the School Development plan. Music lead attends network meetings to discuss best practice and share new information. This information is shared across our network and the music lead will share relevant information and CPD with staff. The School Music Hub support staff with CPD training and share their knowledge. All peripatetic teachers provide advice to staff if requested to contribute to whole class performances.

All teachers are successful in demonstrating high expectations and in enthusing and motivating pupils including those with special educational needs. We have a number of children with special educational needs who have enjoyed performing as part of our school choir.

Part B: Extra-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 in FS and KS1 have the opportunity to sing and perform with other schools as part of St Helens Song Fest. All children in KS2 can access peripatetic lessons provided by the School Music Service. Children can learn Guitar and Keyboard throughout the academic year with opportunities provided to perform to different classes and to parents termly.

Extra-curricular music activities consist of a weekly after school choir run throughout the year by the music lead. This involves children from Year 2 up to Year 6. This then leads to children taking part in Christmas Sing, Lost in music, Armed Forces Day and performances for parents in school termly. During these clubs, children listen to a variety of music, understand the importance of warming up before singing, and create their own pieces of music and perform a wide range of songs across different genres. Children also use this time to rehearse in preparation for performances. St Helen's music service run ensemble at St Mary's after school once a week.

Through wider opportunity links, children take instruments home throughout the school year to refine and develop their skills. Children are signposted to ensemble groups in the local area that are offered in term time, organised by St Helens Music Hub. After a year of wider opportunities, children have the option to 'Play on' and continue their strings tuition. These lessons are heavily subsidised by St Helens Music Hub. This allows children to build on skills taught previously, and to enhance their love of Music.

Some of our children go onto achieve Grades and perform in the local youth bands and orchestras in St Helens. Some of our children also perform at St Helen's Theatre Royal

through local dance classes. All these achievements are recognised, displayed and celebrated in school, counting towards Children's University Awards.

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.

All year groups perform at various points throughout the academic year. This will involve a mix of group and solo singing, playing instruments individually or as an ensemble across a range of instruments and genres. Children perform musically in Christmas performances, Class and whole school masses, Easter performances, Collective worships, end of year performances. Children sing a variety of songs weekly during assemblies. KS2 have a weekly hymn practice, they learn new songs and listen and appraise.

During the year, all children experience a variety of musical performances. EYFS and KS1 attend Song Fest provided by the St Helens Music Hub. Children learn a range of songs and actions to perform with a cluster of schools. KS1 and KS2 attend separate concerts at the Philharmonic; tickets subsidised by St Helens Music Hub. Children listen to live music performed by Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. These performances allow the children to go on a musical journey, with live artwork on stage for KS1, and a scheme of work provided for KS2 to give children extra knowledge about the pieces they hear. Concerts are fully accessible with BSL interpretation at all shows.

KS2 also have access to Lost in Music; a performance organised by the St Helens Music Hub. A tutor is provided to support singing and performing a range of popular songs around a theme. Children perform in a concert with other schools and a youth orchestra. Children practise songs during extra curricular clubs afterschool. Parents and carers are invited to purchase tickets and enjoy these experiences watching their children perform.

In the future

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

At St Mary's Catholic Primary School, we acknowledge that our Music Curriculum is a working document which we continually strive to improve. The curriculum is constantly

monitored and evaluated by leaders and reviewed in line with the changing needs of our children and the changing demands of the wider society. As a result, adoptions are made in order to secure further improvements for our pupils.

Next academic year, we will be working on the following targets to enhance all children's musical experiences:

- continue to monitor the timetable delivery of music across the school for up to one hour a week
- continue to provide opportunities for live performances
- continue to provide access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- to continue to provide termly school performances for all
- continue to provide termly performances for children in choir

To continue to support the development of children's music skills, we will be working on these long-term targets:

- to develop a school ensemble, band, or group
- to provide extra curricular music club for FS/KS1
- to provide opportunities for music technology

Further information

Additional links used to support music at St Mary's:

Charanga

<https://charanga.com/site/musical-school/>

BBC Ten Pieces

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ten-pieces>

St Helens Music Hub

<https://www.sthelens.gov.uk/article/5032/St-Helens-Music-Education-Hub>

School Music Service

<https://www.schoolsmusicservice.co.uk/>

Philharmonic concerts

<https://www.liverpoolphil.com/take-part/schools-concerts/>

Listening Links 2021 across each year group