

Music development plan summary: St. Johns the Evangelist RC Primary School

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the [national plan for music education](#):

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	October 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Sophie Dawes and Janet Scott
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	-
Name of local music hub	Bolton & Blackburn with Darwen Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	-

Part A: Curriculum music

At St. Johns, we provide a high-quality music education that encourages children to develop a passion and love for music. We expect children to improve their confidence, to develop resilience and to be proud of their achievements. Our aim is to provide a music curriculum that engages and inspires pupils by working both collaboratively and independently. We want our children to develop an interest and curiosity for music, as well as creating an understanding and acceptance of all genres of music and the important part that they play in different cultures and religions around the world. Music is crucial for all children and it has a range of benefits that we want our children to gain from. We want all children to have fun, express themselves in different ways, become more resilient and work on social skills in music. We aim to provide secure foundation knowledge for children to build on as they progress through education.

Our Music curriculum is delivered by a HLTA using the scheme Charanga. It allows children to listen, perform, sing, compose, evaluate and play linking to the aims in the National Curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum. Our music lessons are engaging and exciting whilst allowing all children to express themselves in a safe and loving environment. This helps to establish a passion for music across school.

Through Charanga, which has been created for the teaching of music in primary schools, teachers deliver inclusive lessons that all learners can access. Charanga lessons are structured around units and steps that support individual lessons and delivery across the year. Different musical elements are taught through classroom lessons which enables children to use musical language from Reception to Year 6. All children are introduced to and expected to use the correct musical terminology. Children apply their musical vocabulary when listening to and playing different pieces of music.

Our Model Music Curriculum scheme is suitable for children aged 5 –11, with six units per year. Each unit is structured into six steps which are delivered once fortnightly. The first step of each unit introduces that unit's focus in terms of content, skills and knowledge; the middle steps then develop this, and the final, sixth step assesses the learning through exciting performances and activities.

Resources used in lessons are Charanga, pitched and un-pitched percussion and a range of different genres of songs.

In music lessons, children have the opportunity for regular practice and repetition of skills that have been taught. This helps to embed the skills and has a positive effect on children's memory.

In music lessons, children in EYFS and KS1 learn how to play pitched and un-pitched instruments. In EYFS children are taught how to correctly play instruments with control, using the correct beaters/equipment. In KS1 this is extended to reading, playing and writing simple rhythms using rhymes to help understand notation (walk, running and rests for crotchets and quavers). In KS1, children are able to play in unison and follow

rhythms. Building on these skills, in KS2 children play glockenspiels and are taught to read basic notation, compositional skills and are beginning to analyse music. Children are taught to read crotchets, quavers, minims and semibreves as well as rests and minim rest.

Part B: Co-curricular music

We provide opportunities for music progress for children outside of classroom music lessons. Choir is held weekly and has become popular among KS2 children and we have started to create opportunities for children to perform both in school (e.g. The Christmas Fair) and at Church (e.g. The Carol Service). Children from Year 2 upwards have the opportunity to attend peripatetic lessons within the school day which are offered by Bolton Music Service. Bolton Music Service offer a bursary for low income families. These are violin, flute, recorder and keyboard. These children have the opportunity to showcase their talent in a celebration concert twice a year where parents are invited.

Part C: Musical experiences

Teachers Tune - Every week a member of staff chooses a different piece of music to play at the start of Friday assembly. The member of staff writes a short paragraph about why they have chosen it, what they like about it and includes some musical elements.

We have hymn practice once a fortnight which is led by a member of the parish. These songs are sung at school Masses and celebrations at Church and in school.

Our KS2 choir meets weekly throughout the year. This is an extra – curricular club which is free and open to any KS2 child. Our aim is to widen our performance audience over the next academic year.

Each year EYFS and KS1 perform a Nativity play with songs, dances and acting which is performed to the whole school and parents in December. KS2 hold a Carol Service at Church where they sing tradition Christmas Carols for the Parish and parents.

The 'Friends of St John' subsidise the cost of a pantomime for the whole school at the Victoria Hall at Christmas. The children are exposed to professional singers and actors in a theatre.

At Christmas, Year 6 attend the local high school production.

In the Summer term, Year 6 perform an end of year production for the whole school and families which involves singing and acting.

In the future

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

To create wider opportunities for the choir to perform throughout the year and to perform within the community.

Continued subject leader support and guidance through Bolton Music Service.

To continue work on analysing pieces of music across school.

At Christmas time, we will introduce a 'tree dressing performance' where each class will perform a Christmas song of their own choice.

To introduce a music display in every classroom for children to access language and terminology.

Further information (optional)

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Our local [music hub](#) also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.