

Music development plan summary: St Mary's C of E Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024/25
Date this summary was published	01.09.2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	01.09.2025
Name of the school music lead	Karen Fallon
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Essex
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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.

Music at St Mary's C of E Primary School is taught in all classes from EYFS to Year 6. We aim to develop pupil's knowledge, skills and understanding in music through a wide range of teaching styles. These include; actions and dance, whole class work, small group work and individual work. Staff work together to ensure music progression is evident throughout the school and pupils build on what they have been taught in previous years.

Our music curriculum allows:

- Pupils to develop their performance skills through learning to play tuned and untuned instruments, singing a variety of songs and rehearsing and performing with others.

- Pupils to develop their composing skills through creating musical patterns and exploring and organising sounds and learning to record these in a variety of ways.
- Pupils to learn to analyse and compare sounds, explore ideas and make improvements to their work, building on their appraising skills.
- Pupils to learn to listen with increased concentration to internalise and recall sounds.

Teachers plan lessons following our music curriculum matrix. We follow the Charanga music scheme, with a half-termly focus-based approach to support teachers in engaging all of our pupils during music lessons. These lessons include a variety of adult lead and child-initiated activities. Each unit of work has a cross curricular focus and a musical focus, which allows pupils to progress throughout their primary school experience. Children with SEND are individually supported in class depending on their various requirements, for example: use of ear defenders when music lessons are louder than average, teacher's ability to differentiate their lessons and use planning to challenge all pupils depending on their ability.

To read in more detail about the provision music at St Marys' C of E Primary School, please visit our music curriculum page <https://www.stmaryssw.co.uk/music/>

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.

Currently, we do not offer music tuition out of lesson time. Historically, we have offered guitar tuition to pupils but we did not get any uptake. Research has been taken during Summer term 2024 and we have a company booked in to perform an assembly in September 2024 and invite pupils to sign up for 1:1 tuition. We are exploring some funding options to allow all pupils the chance to play an instrument.

We regularly signpost families to the Essex Music Hub for opportunities within the local authority. They offer weekend music centre where beginners or more experienced young musicians can play free of charge as part of an ensemble.

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.

We have one hymn assembly weekly for all pupils to attend. A mixture of traditional hymns and modern songs are taught and sang collectively during this time. We have a timetable whereby songs are repeated to build pupil confidence and knowledge of songs. Pupils at St Mary's C of E Primary School gain a lot of enjoyment from this approach.

At the end of each half term, children perform through either singing or playing an instrument they have learnt over the past 5-6 weeks. This can be as part of an assembly or a performance to another class. Pupils experience performing to a small audience and gain confidence and pride before performing to the whole school and/or parents and family members.

We have enrichment opportunities across our curriculum plan such as African Drumming workshops, Musicadoo and The Sinfonia Orchestra. At the Musicadoo workshop children discovered the instruments of the world traveling on a world map, merging music with geography, history, anthropology, civic education, and psychology. During these classes, the pupils were invited to sing and play without worrying about being right or wrong, and this greatly boosted their self-confidence.

In the future

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

We plan to use this academic year 2024-2025 to make some strong and lasting links with other music venues to enable our pupils to have a widened experience of live music in a range of contexts. We plan to grow pupil confidence in singing as part of a choir so they feel they can perform to their peers and families more regularly.

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.