

Music development plan summary: St Andrews Church of England Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Carrie Lawrence
Name of local music hub	Hertfordshire (North Herts and Stevenage)

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.

- A summary of our Music Curriculum can be found on the school website.
- It is our aim for children to have access to a minimum of one hour of quality music each week. This takes the form of a 30 minute music lesson (45 minutes for Y6) and a 30 minute Singing Worship Assembly. Children can choose to extend this through attending one of our many Music Extra-Curricular Clubs or taking instrumental lessons.
- Our school music curriculum was designed with reference to the Model Music Curriculum and suggested skills development, alongside the Hertfordshire Music Service skills development guidance.
- All children have the opportunity to sing in music lessons, in class, in church and in school assemblies. In their weekly Singing Worship Assembly, children learn vocal warm ups and singing technique. Some songs are

chosen to support school worship themes, others are chosen specifically to develop the children's voices and teach technical aspects of singing.

- In music lessons, all children have the opportunity to play musical instruments.
- 1. In KS1 children mainly play untuned percussion, but also have the opportunity to experiment with pitched percussion, playing boom whackers and glockenspiels.
- 2. In KS2, children continue to play untuned percussion, but also have the chance to learn basic skills on the recorder, glockenspiel, keyboard and virtual instruments, played on iPads.
- In Y5 and Y6 all children learn to use music technology, to play virtual instruments and compose music.

Part B: Extra-Curricular Music Provision

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.

- Our school choir is open to all children in KS2 and is free to join. We have a partnership with a local Care Home where we go and sing. Every December, our choir sings to open the Hitchin Christmas Tree Festival.
- From Y3 upward, all children have the opportunity to join our Beginner Recorder Group. Children can then progress to the Advanced Recorder Group, by informal audition. The Beginner Recorder Group performs in a summer concert, the Advanced Recorder Group gives several performances throughout the school year. These groups are free to join.
- KS2 Children who learn a portable musical instrument can join our school Band which performs three times a year (once a term). Again, this is a free music club. Although this is designed for KS2, we do occasionally have KS1 children in the Band if they are particularly advanced in their musical instrument and their ability to focus during rehearsals.
- All children have the opportunity to learn to play the clarinet through the First Access scheme which runs throughout Year 3. Many children choose to then continue clarinet lessons in Year 4, or take up another instrument.

- At school we have several excellent peripatetic teachers who offer lessons in Piano, Strings, Woodwind and Brass. Children can take various exams and qualifications in their instruments, including Grade Exams. Parents fund these lessons. However, HMS does fund music lessons for families under certain income thresholds. We always make this information available to parents.
- We also direct children to our local music centre (The North Herts Music School), where even more musical instruments can be taught and a wide variety of music ensembles are on offer. Again, parents pay for these, but they can be subsidised by HMS for families under certain income thresholds.
- In KS2, all children who learn a musical instrument are encouraged to play in our Spring Concert, celebrating their hard work and achievement.
- For pupils who want to progress in music outside their music lessons and do not have access to instrumental lessons, our music teacher has created class logins to the Charanga website, where pupils can do short courses in Recorder, Ukelele and Keyboard Skills, as well as accessing a variety of songs which involve singing in harmony. The idea of these particular instruments is that they are relatively inexpensive to buy (Recorder and Ukelele) or children may already have them at home (Keyboard/Piano).

Part C: Musical Performances

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.

Formal Performances

- In EYFS and KS1, all children put on a Christmas musical. There are two performances of each musical for families, as well as a performance to the school, where all children are able to watch.
- In KS2, all children sing in a Christmas Concert at a local Church, for parents and the general public.
- KS2 Children also perform in a large-scale musical in the summer term. Recent productions have included 'Matilda Junior' and 'Oliver Junior'. This musical is performed for families and friends, but we also

have separate performances for our KS1 and EYFS children at school.

- As mentioned above, our school Choir sing to open the Hitchin Christmas Tree Festival and in performances at a local care home. The choir is free to join and open to all KS2 children.
- Our school instrumental ensembles perform in spring and summer concerts for their families and for the school. All these music ensembles are free to join and open to KS2 children who play musical instruments. Beginner Recorders is open to all KS2 children.
- All our Y3 students have to opportunity to perform for their parents at the end of their year of learning the clarinet, under the First Access scheme.

Informal Performances

- All children sing in class and in assemblies, including a weekly Music Worship Assembly, where as well as learning new songs, we focus on different areas of singing technique and vocal warm up exercises.
- All children visit our local church several times throughout the year, where they sing a number of songs. This is part of our school worship. Parents are also invited to these services.

Watching Performances

- We publicise local concerts, including the Kings Chamber Orchestra Teddy Concert and other concerts designed for children.
- In school, all children get the opportunity to watch our school music ensembles perform in spring and summer concerts. With each musical production we perform, including our Christmas and summer musicals, the year groups who are not performing get to watch the shows.

In the future

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

- From September 2024, to continue with our high quality Extra-Curricular Music Clubs, now encouraging children to join on a 'project by project basis', so we get maximum engagement. Also, to continue our highly successful First Access Clarinet course for Y3.
- From September 2024, to increase our Singing Worship Assembly time from 20 minutes to 30 minutes (as above), so that all children are accessing at least an hour of music tuition per week.
- From September 2024, within our Singing Worship Assembly, to increase the focus on singing technique, so that more students have the opportunity to take their singing skills to a higher level as they progress through primary school.
- For 2025, to plan a collaboration with another school to enable us to share excellent practice and celebrate our students' hard work.