

Music Development Plan Summary:

St.Mary's C of E Primary Academy and Nursery

Overview	
Details	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	09/25
Date this summary will be reviewed	07/2026
Name of the school music lead	Rebecca Freeman
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Services for Education
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady RAD

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.

Intent

Developing learners who:

- Use their voices expressively and creatively by singing songs and speaking chants and rhymes
- Play tuned and untuned instruments musically
 - experiment with, create, select and combine sounds
 - appreciate and understand a wide range of high-quality music drawn from different traditions and from great composers and musicians

- Be able to understand and discuss the interrelated dimensions of music using technical vocabulary appropriate to their age and stage of learning
- Experience composition and performance of music, through taught lessons and other events such as assemblies and talent shows.

HOW THIS SUBJECT IS TAUGHT

Music is taught using the Charanga scheme of learning. Charanga is a progressive program that enables pupils to reflect and build on their musical knowledge and skills. This scheme is taught from Reception to Year 6. Pupils are now familiar with the structure of music lessons and know the high expectations set by staff. Nursery sing simple rhymes and songs, and Phase 1 phonics activities, which link to the Early Years Framework. In addition to Charanga, Years 3 and 4 also have taught ukulele lessons provided by a specialist music teacher. These lessons are for 1 hour, once a week. Some children also attend band practise provided by the specialist music teacher (Rocksteady Music School & RAD)

PLANNING & COVERAGE

The Charanga Musical School Scheme provides teachers with week-by-week lesson support for each year group in the school, excluding Nursery. It provides lesson plans, assessment, clear progression, and engaging and exciting whiteboard resources to support every lesson. The Scheme supports all the requirements of the National Curriculum and Development Matters. Each academic year is broken into 6 units of work (1 per half term), each divided into 6 progressive steps. Each unit is designed to take approximately six weeks, often focused on a specific song or piece of music. The material presents an integrated approach to music where games, the dimensions of music (pulse, rhythm, pitch etc), singing and playing instruments are all linked. Each Unit of Work focuses on the strands of musical learning which correspond with the national curriculum for music:

1. Listening and Appraising
2. Musical Activities
 - a. Warm-up Games
 - b. Optional Flexible Games
 - c. Singing
 - d. Playing instruments
 - e. Improvisation
 - f. Composition
3. Performing

Charanga Musical School Units of Work enable children to understand musical concepts through a repetition-based approach to learning. Learning about the same musical concept through different 3 musical activities enable a more secure, deeper learning and mastery of musical skills. The teacher is able to plan and provide the opportunity to embed a deeper learning, knowledge, understanding and skills.

- Teachers have been using Charanga in the progressive sequence which results in pupils being able to make links between skills.
- A variety of instruments are being used to support children's development.
- Music is a timetabled subject, with schemes of work and assessment in place.

All students can access this curriculum from EYFS to Year 6 which ensures the progression of skills and knowledge throughout each year group.

- Pupils with SEND can participate and progress well (supported by technology, tools and instruments), which enable music lessons to be fully inclusive for all pupils.
- Every child is entitled to learn to play a tuned instrument. Teachers are supported in their instruction of glockenspiels through Charanga.

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.

Rocksteady performances termly
Choir singing at Acorns Residential Home
School Choir

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.

During collective worship children can sing along with others.

Singing and rehearsing songs for class assemblies.

Children in KS2 Choir.

In the future

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

Charanga will be available to children and parents to access at home and for teachers to set homework. Assemblies live will be used to expose children to a wider variety of songs and genres during school/class assemblies.

Our next step is to access Singing Playgrounds to enable children to champion their own singing games during their break times.

To establish a KS1 Choir.

We will endeavour to work once again with our school music hub to re-establish Peripatetic teachers to give children a wider range of musical experiences (Steel pans, Dhol and Sitar).