

Music development plan summary: St Michael's Church of England Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	2.9.24
Date this summary will be reviewed	3.9.25
Name of the school music lead	Molly Harrison
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Carly Bird
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Services for Education

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.

Our school is committed to providing high-quality music education as part of our curriculum. Detailed information about our music curriculum for each year group can be found on our school website at: <https://www.stmicb32.bham.sch.uk/Music/>

Time Allocation

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS): Music is integrated throughout the day as part of the 'Expressive Arts and Design' area of learning. This includes daily opportunities for singing, exploring sounds, and engaging with music and movement.

Key Stage 1 and 2: One hour of music teaching per week. In some classes this takes the form of short sessions spread across the week.

Our time allocation for Key Stages 1 and 2 aligns with the National Plan for Music Education, which recommends at least one hour of music each week. For EYFS, we

ensure that music is a regular and integral part of the daily learning experience, as outlined in the national plan.

This consistent time allocation across the primary years allows for a comprehensive and progressive music education, building a strong foundation for further musical development in Key Stage 3 and beyond.

Our Music Curriculum

Our music curriculum is informed by and aligned with the model music curriculum (March 2021) and is delivered through the Kapow Primary music scheme. This ensures a comprehensive and progressive approach to music education throughout the school.

Our curriculum aims to help children feel that they are musical and to develop a life-long love of music. It focuses on developing the skills, knowledge and understanding that children need to become confident performers, composers, and listeners. Our curriculum introduces children to music from all around the world and across generations, teaching children to respect and appreciate the music of all traditions and communities.

Children will develop a range of musical skills including singing, playing tuned and untuned instruments, improvising and composing music, and listening and responding to music. They will also gain an understanding of the history and cultural context of the music they listen to and learn how music can be written down.

Our music curriculum helps children develop transferable skills such as team-working, leadership, creative thinking, problem-solving, decision-making, and presentation and performance skills. These skills are vital to children's development as learners and have a wider application in their general lives outside and beyond school.

It also enables pupils to meet the end of key stage attainment targets and aims outlined in the National Curriculum. This comprehensive approach not only aligns with national guidelines but also provides a rich and diverse musical experience for our pupils, supporting their overall development and fostering a deep appreciation for music.

Opportunities to Sing and Play an Instrument

Our music curriculum is designed to provide a comprehensive and inclusive musical education for all pupils. Throughout their time at St Michael's, we focus on teaching children to sing fluently and expressively, as well as to play both tuned and untuned instruments accurately.

The instrumental scheme lessons compliment the Kapow Primary Scheme of Work and allow lower key stage 2 pupils to develop their expertise in using a tuned instrument from a minimum of one term as recommend in the model music curriculum.

A standout feature of our instrumental programme is the weekly brass lessons provided to Year 3 pupils. This whole-class approach ensures that all children in this year group have the opportunity to learn a brass instrument, regardless of their background. The children can then continue with this past Year 3 as elective lessons. In addition to this, the children in Key Stage 2 also have the option to learn the guitar with a peripatetic teacher.

Supporting Pupils with SEND

We are committed to ensuring that our music curriculum is accessible and inclusive for all pupils, including those with disabilities and special educational needs (SEND). For pupils with hearing impairments, we utilise visual aids to help them engage with rhythm and melody. Pupils with visual impairments benefit from large-print music notation and tactile learning resources. For learners with cognitive or developmental needs, we employ adapted teaching strategies, including simplified notation systems, colour-coding, and step-by-step task breakdowns.

Additionally, we offer one-to-one support or small group sessions where needed, allowing for personalised instruction tailored to individual learning styles and needs. Our teachers receive ongoing training in inclusive practises and work closely with our SENDCo to ensure that lesson plans and activities are appropriately adapted. By doing so, we aim to demonstrate our commitment to making music education accessible and enjoyable for every child, regardless of their individual challenges or needs.

This approach aligns with the SEND Code of Practice, which emphasises the importance of making reasonable adjustments to ensure that pupils with SEND can access the curriculum. It also reflects the principles outlined in the Equality Act 2010, which requires schools to make reasonable adjustments to avoid substantial disadvantage to disabled pupils.

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.

We offer a rich array of co-curricular music opportunities to complement our core curriculum. In Key Stage 2, pupils have the chance to learn an instrument outside of regular music lessons, with tuition provided by peripatetic music teachers (brass and

guitar). This one-to-one and small group instruction allows for personalised learning and skill development.

Our school also boasts a dedicated music room. This well-equipped space features a variety of instruments and provides a stimulating space where pupils can develop their musical skills, express creativity, and foster a lifelong appreciation for music.

Our school choir, open to pupils in Years 3-6, meets weekly and provides a vibrant platform for vocal ensemble work. The choir regularly participates in high-profile events such as Young Voices, Schools in Harmony and performs in concerts across Birmingham, as well as in-school performances for parents and carers. These experiences not only enhance musical skills but also build confidence and teamwork.

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 offer a diverse range of musical experiences throughout the academic year. Our weekly 'Worship Through Song' Collective Worship brings the entire school together, fostering unity through music while reinforcing our Christian vision. These sessions provide a powerful platform for pupils and staff to explore and express our Christian values through carefully selected hymns and songs that reflect our ethos.

Our school choir is also central to many performances, including the Young Voices and Schools in Harmony events, which allows pupils to perform in large-scale concerts alongside other schools. They also perform an end of year concert.

We host regular in-school music concerts, showcasing talents across all year groups. Brass and Guitar concerts, organised by our peripatetic teachers, highlight our instrumental programme.

Additional musical experiences include choir performances in school and community events, music concerts featuring various year groups, and trips to theatre shows when possible.

In the future

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

At St Michael's, we are committed to enhancing our music provision in the coming years. Our primary focus is to fully embed the Kapow Primary curriculum across all year groups by the end of the next academic year. This will provide a solid foundation

for musical learning, ensuring progression in skills and knowledge from Reception to Year 6.

Alongside this, we aim to develop a robust assessment framework for music. This framework will align with the music curriculum and enable us to track pupils' progress more effectively across the key musical components: performing, composing, and listening. This approach will help us identify areas for improvement and celebrate pupils' musical achievements.

We are excited to strengthen our partnership with the local music hub. This collaboration will bring more professional musicians into our school for workshops and performances, enriching our pupils' musical experiences. To support our pupils' musical development, we aim to consider introducing a system to support them in achieving instrument qualifications and awards.

The school has also recently appointed an ECT who is a music specialist. As their career develops, they will take on a leading role in developing the music provision across the school. Over this academic year, they will be working closely with our experienced music lead to support the actions in this music development plan.

To accommodate our growing music programme, we will be designating rehearsal spaces for use during break and lunch times. Over the next two years, we also aim to broaden the range of instruments on offer for tuition, including both traditional orchestral instruments and those from diverse cultural backgrounds.

Improving our provision for pupils with SEND is a key priority. We will be looking into purchasing adaptive instruments and developing tailored teaching strategies to ensure all pupils can fully participate in music lessons. This initiative will be rolled out gradually over the next academic year.

We plan to introduce after-school music clubs, providing additional opportunities for pupils to engage with music beyond the curriculum. These clubs will cater to various interests and skill levels.

A significant addition to our future plan is the commitment to provide all pupils with the opportunity to enjoy at least one live performance each year. This may involve bringing professional musicians into the school for concerts or organising trips to local music venues. We believe that experiencing live music is crucial for developing appreciation and understanding of music, and we're excited to make this a regular feature of our music programme.