

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

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	1.9.26
Date this summary will be reviewed	1.9.27
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://stmichaelsb32.bdmatt.org.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 Stages 1 and 2: Pupils receive one hour of music teaching per week. In some classes, this is delivered through shorter 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. In EYFS, music is a regular and integral part of the daily learning experience.

This consistent entitlement across the primary years supports a comprehensive and progressive music education and builds 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 Kapow Primary Music. It is carefully sequenced to build pupils' knowledge and skills in listening, performing, composing, improvising and musical notation.

Our curriculum aims to inspire children to see themselves as musical and to develop a lifelong love of music. Pupils encounter music from a wide range of cultures, genres, traditions and historical periods, helping them to appreciate music as a diverse and shared human experience.

Children develop confidence in singing, playing tuned and untuned instruments, composing, improvising, listening and responding. Regular opportunities to perform, collaborate and reflect help pupils develop musicality, creativity and self-expression.

Music also develops transferable skills including teamwork, leadership, creative thinking, problem-solving, perseverance, communication and performance. The curriculum enables pupils to meet the aims and end-of-key-stage expectations of the National Curriculum while supporting their wider personal development.

Opportunities to Sing and Play an Instrument

Throughout their time at St Michael's, pupils are taught to sing fluently and expressively and to play a range of tuned and untuned instruments with increasing accuracy, control and confidence.

Instrumental scheme lessons complement the Kapow Primary scheme and enable lower Key Stage 2 pupils to develop their expertise on a tuned instrument for a sustained period, in line with the Music Curriculum.

A key feature of our instrumental programme is weekly whole-class brass tuition for all Year 3 pupils. Pupils can continue with brass beyond Year 3 through elective lessons, and pupils in Key Stage 2 can also learn guitar with a peripatetic teacher. Where appropriate, pupils are supported to progress towards recognised musical grades and wider musical opportunities.

Supporting Pupils with SEND

We are committed to ensuring that pupils with SEND and disabilities can access the same ambitious music curriculum and participate fully in musical learning. Adaptations are selected according to the barriers a pupil is experiencing rather than simply because of a particular label or need.

In music, this may include clear modelling, visual prompts and Widgit symbols, breaking learning into manageable steps, repetition and additional practice, adapted notation or ways of representing musical ideas, additional processing time, flexible grouping and targeted adult support. High expectations for musical learning are maintained while barriers to participation are reduced.

Teachers use ongoing assessment to check whether adaptations are effective and reduce scaffolds as pupils become more independent. Staff work closely with the SENDCo and make reasonable adjustments in line with the SEND Code of Practice and Equality Act 2010 so that music is accessible, inclusive and enjoyable for every pupil.

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 range of co-curricular music opportunities to complement the core curriculum. Pupils can access instrumental tuition in brass and guitar, choir, ensembles and performance opportunities. Peripatetic teachers provide individual and small-group tuition, supporting sustained musical development.

Our dedicated music room is well equipped with a range of instruments and provides a stimulating space in which pupils can rehearse, perform, develop their skills and express their creativity.

Our school choir, open to pupils in Years 3-6, meets weekly and provides a vibrant platform for vocal ensemble work. The choir participates in events such as Young Voices and Schools in Harmony, performs at venues across Birmingham and contributes to in-school and community performances.

We are committed to widening participation and reducing barriers to musical enrichment. Enrichment opportunities are fully funded and free to families, with priority access given to pupils eligible for Pupil Premium and pupils with SEND where appropriate. Participation information shows strong representation from disadvantaged pupils, pupils with SEND and vulnerable pupils across our music provision.

Our co-curricular offer supports progression and aspiration. Through sustained tuition, pupils may work towards recognised musical grades and progress into external ensembles. Where pupils demonstrate the appropriate level of musical development, the school supports and signposts them towards opportunities provided by Services for Education, including Birmingham-wide guitar, brass and other instrumental ensembles. This provides a progression route from school-based tuition and ensembles into wider city-level music-making.

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 whole school together through music while reinforcing our Christian vision. Carefully selected hymns and songs provide opportunities for pupils and staff to explore and express our Christian values.

Our choir is central to many performances. Pupils take part in large-scale events such as Young Voices and Schools in Harmony, have opportunities to perform at venues including Symphony Hall, and benefit from opportunities linked with the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. The choir also performs at school and community events and in an end-of-year concert.

Our instrumental ensemble also provides opportunities for pupils to participate in larger collaborative performances with pupils from other schools across Birmingham. Through our partnership work and wider Birmingham music opportunities, pupils have opportunities to perform at significant cultural venues including Symphony Hall and the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. These experiences enable pupils to perform as part of a larger ensemble, learn alongside other young musicians and experience high-quality music-making beyond their own school.

We host regular in-school music concerts that celebrate pupils' talents across the school. Brass and guitar concerts, organised with our peripatetic teachers, provide pupils with authentic performance opportunities and allow families to celebrate their musical development.

Additional musical experiences include ensemble and choir performances, concerts involving different year groups, community events and visits to theatre or other cultural performances where possible. These experiences help pupils develop confidence, aspiration, teamwork, performance skills and a strong sense of achievement and belonging.

In the future

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

During 2026–27, we will continue to build on our established music provision by making greater use of pupil voice to evaluate pupils' experiences of music and help shape future enrichment, clubs, performances and instrumental opportunities. This will help ensure that our wider offer reflects pupils' interests and continues to engage them positively.

We will continue to ensure that co-curricular music is inclusive and accessible for all pupils. Participation will be considered across different groups, including pupils eligible for Pupil Premium and pupils with SEND, so that any barriers to engagement can be identified and addressed where needed.

We will further strengthen our approach to identifying and nurturing musical talent. Teachers and peripatetic staff will identify pupils demonstrating particular aptitude, commitment or potential and ensure that they have appropriate opportunities to develop further. This will include targeted before-school guitar tuition, sustained instrumental teaching, opportunities to work towards musical grades, participation in school ensembles and progression into appropriate Services for Education Birmingham ensembles.

We will also continue to broaden pupils' musical experiences through performances, visiting musicians, instrumental opportunities and links with external music and cultural organisations where appropriate. This will build on the opportunities already available in school, including collaborative performances with other Birmingham schools and opportunities at venues such as Symphony Hall and the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire, further enriching pupils' musical and cultural experiences and raising aspiration.