Music development plan summary: St John's

All schools should have a music development plan from academic year 2023-24. Schools are expected to publish a summary of their plan on their website from academic year 2024-25.

This template is designed to support schools to produce the summary. It should set out how the school will deliver high-quality music provision in curriculum music, co-curricular music and musical experiences, taking into account the key features in the national plan for music education:

- timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3
- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance
- opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year

The summary should reflect your school's music provision for the given school year and your plans for subsequent years. It should also refer to any existing partnership with your local music hub or other music education organisations that supports the school with music provision.

Before publishing your completed summary, delete the advice in this template along with this text box.

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	26/27
Date this summary was published	03/12/2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	01/12/2027
Name of the school music lead	Sian Mitchell
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Andrew Knight
Name of local music hub	Bradford Music and Arts Service
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 is covered by a specialist for every year group in the Music room each week as part of their curriculum timetable. These lessons are taught throughout the academic year.

- Nursery - 1hr 30 weekly in their own provision space, one morning session and one afternoon
- Reception - 30 minutes weekly
- Year 1 - 1 hour weekly
- Year 2 - 30 minutes weekly
- Year 3 - 45 minutes weekly
- Year 4,5 and 6 - 1 hour weekly

As part of these lessons, children learn songs in EYFS classes which help to understand and experience tempo, pitch and rhythm. As children move into Year 2 they start to identify elements of music and begin to understand the differences between tempo and rhythm and how to read and write with rhythmic notation. We introduce recorders in the summer term of year 2 and revisit these in the spring of year 3. This leads into singing with the keyboard and linking the notation and sounds together for full class instrumental teaching.

Throughout all EYFS and KS1 children sing and develop their skills, experience of composition, repertoire and confidence in performing through using their voices. This is deepened within a strong emphasis on singing in collective worship every morning and a school wide initiative through sing praise for 20 minutes every Wednesday morning.

In KS2 children develop their use of pitch notation and learn to use this together with prior knowledge of rhythmic notation from KS1 to begin to read music independently. Children have a whole term of whole class tuition on keyboards, developing their skills in this whilst also developing their notation incrementally as they move through to Year 6.

The curriculum follows the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021).

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.

The curriculum is accompanied with a heavy emphasis on singing, offering instrumental lessons through the local music hub, an option of samba band, rock school and recorder group at various points in the year with opportunities to learn new instruments and work as an ensemble with others in other classes and year groups and an option to sing in the school choir from Year 4. There are a variety of performance opportunities every year including Christmas concerts, a performance at the local theatre as their pre-show entertainment for the pantomime press night and the end of year recital.

EYFS have a heavy focus on rehearsal and learning songs for the autumn term working towards their annual nativity and year 2 perform a selection of Christmas songs at their Christmas crafts event at a local church.

We have a partnership with the local music hub who run our instrumental tuition. We currently have children 29 signed up for 26/27 with a mixture of these on guitar, keyboard, drums, brass, strings and woodwind.

Some extra-curricular music sessions are free of charge and offered to some KS2 children. All children are invited to sign up at the start of the rotation. Rock school runs in rotation of year groups so all children have half a term of tutoring and practise.

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.

Every year there is a KS2 Christmas concert in which every class performs a song prepared in their music lessons that term. This is to a live audience of parents and carers.

Each year one class represents our school at the Trust carol service at the Cathedral singing their Christmas piece and the choir are usually invited to sing at the Alhambra, St Luke’s Christmas lights switch on and a number of nursing homes.

The year 6 leavers service is also an opportunity for children to sing and perform with again each class preparing a piece in lessons and then year 6 running a program of pieces themselves on the last day of the year.

Every week we have sing praise as a school where we learn and rehearse new and returning repertoire for the academic year and specific days in the calendar. We have

also taken children to local secondary school dress rehearsals and organ recitals at local churches. There is no cost to these trips and they all take place during school time.

In the future

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

The curriculum is well embedded and the school calendar enables lots of performance opportunities already. This year we have added strings as one of the disciplines available to study through peripatetic lessons and will continue to develop skills and knowledge of this through whole class teaching which is now introduced at the end of year 2.

We are currently working with the music hub to look at the possibility of funding for instrumental lessons to enable more families to access this service and help our numbers grow.

Since the last development plan, some additional strands were added to the curriculum which focus more on enhanced inclusion of pupils with SEND with the use of the LauLau Songdrawing method and working through the concepts of this method with Cherries class and the EYFS.

Further information (optional)