

# Music development plan summary: Saint Mary's RC Academy

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Mr Gareth Heath
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Lincolnshire Music 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.

In Saint Mary's we teach musically weekly an allocated 45 minute music lesson within each year group. In addition to this we provide singing assemblies weekly where the children perform and practise a variety of hymns we have learned throughout the year.

We ensure that it is taught discretely within music lessons and also cross-circularly through other lessons such as maths and RE.

We also have an artist of the week within school which provides us with the opportunity to hear a wider variety of artists that have influenced the music world. This ranges from The Beatles to Bob Marley to more modern artists such as Arctic Monkeys to Taylor Swift.

In our school we follow the Charanga music curriculum. In this curriculum children are able to learn about music history, sing a wide array of musical genres and play instruments to a piece of music. This year a group of KS2 children learned a song and

they went to Boston's Got Talent and achieved 2<sup>nd</sup> place. Which was an amazing accomplishment.

Children are also provided with whole class music lessons in Year 3 and this has ranged from ukuleles to samba drumming. It gives the children a chance to learn and play as a group and experience different instruments.

During the Advent term children are provided with the opportunity to practise and perform songs that they have learned for our school Nativity play. In addition to this we visit the local shops around the area singing Christmas Carols and songs as well as visiting local care homes too.

As a school there is a choir where the children are given the chance to go to Young Voices and perform in front of thousands of people.

We are in partnership with the Lincolnshire Music Service and they provide us with support with whole class music tuition and our music curriculum (Charanga).

In summary our music curriculum is designed to develop children's love for music and different genres as well as give them the chance to play different instruments and feel like they have accomplished something new. We aim to develop well rounded musicians who enjoy listening to and playing music.

## **Part B: Music Tuition**

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.

### **Piano Lessons**

At Saint Mary's we offer children Piano lessons where they are taught to play the piano by an instructor and are able to take musical exams too. These are 1-1 lessons that are taught during afternoon lessons every week. There is a small fee for these lessons that is paid by the parent to our parent pay.

We have previously offered other musical instrument tuition, however there was not enough uptake to provide these lessons from the music service. We will once again offer different instruments to learn; but, which instruments are available depends on uptake and interest.

### **School Choir/ Young Voices**

We also have a school choir where we have visited and sang at a range of venues such as care homes and shops during the Advent term. We have also been to sing at the O2 in London where the children joined part of the Young Voices 2024 choir. Children need to audition for this at the start of the school year and are then selected to

be part of this amazing experience. In 2025 we will be attending Young Voices 2025 at Sheffield arena.

Children for the choir rehearse weekly in his classroom and get the chance to practise songs for upcoming events.

### **Talent Competitions**

Children have also been using our music curriculum to take part in competitions such as Boston's Got Talent where they earned 2<sup>nd</sup> place.

### **Whole School Singing Assemblies**

As part of our music provision we provide who school singing assemblies weekly. These times are not just for singing however, also an educational experience where the children are able to practise and develop their singing ability. In these they learn about pitch, volume and tempo. During these assemblies they are also introduced to the artist of the week which has artists throughout musical history showcased to the children so that they are able to develop their appreciation and understanding of music.

In conclusion, we aim to provide a rich and diverse opportunity to be able to perform and learn different pieces of music. We provide children with the opportunities to practise and perform music in exciting and enjoyable ways.

## **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.

At St Mary's RC Academy we are committed to nurturing lifelong learners who enjoy and have a passion for their musical education. We aim to provide a rich diet of experiences so that children can continue to develop.

### **Live Performances**

During Year 5, pupils are offered the opportunity to visit London and watch a West End musical. In previous years they have been to see 'The Lion King' and 'Matilda'. This can provide children with a once in a life time experience to see a show performed by professionals. In addition to this we have had local theatre companies to come and perform for the school on topics such as environment and suitability. As a school we also visit the pantomime every year which includes a variety of songs where the children are encouraged to participate.

### **Performance Experiences**

We also offer children between Years 4-6 the opportunity to join the school choir, perform at events where their singing was projected around the town, and Young Voices where the children performed a number of songs from different genres and time periods in front of thousands of people at the O2 Arena in London. This provided the children with a truly memorable experience that could stick with them for the rest of their lives.

The children of St Mary's are also able to go and sing to members of the local community in places such as care homes, local contests, church and local businesses.

During the Advent term our KS1 children put on a musical nativity for parents and the local community where they learn a wide variety of songs. In addition to this, KS2 performed a carol concert.

### **Whole School Singing Assemblies**

As part of our music provision we provide whole school singing assemblies weekly. These times are not just for singing however, also an educational experience where the children are able to practise and develop their singing ability. In these they learn about pitch, volume and tempo. During these assemblies they are also introduced to the artist of the week which has artists throughout musical history showcased to the children so that they are able to develop their appreciation and understanding of music.

## **In the future**

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

At St Mary's we strive to continue our development of our music curriculum. In the coming years we plan to implement several key improvements to our music curriculum. Please see below.

### **Music lessons**

To provide children with a wider range of instruments that they can learn within school. This will be done by asking parents if they are interested and then working with the music hub to ensure that we can provide a good variety of instruments for our students.

### **CPD for Teachers**

To provide teachers with the tools to be experts at teaching the music curriculum and give them the support they need to feel confident when delivering the curriculum to their classes. These CPD sessions will also focus on assessment in music and how to do it effectively within the classroom.

### **Half Termly Musical Performances**

To provide children with the chance to perform songs they have been learning in class every half term. Each class would perform once in the year and parents would be invited to come and join in and listen to what they have been doing. They would also get to see the children play the instruments to the songs they have been learning in lessons too.

### **Increase lesson timing**

To increase lesson timings to 1 hour to ensure that children are able to get the most from their musical curriculum.