

Music development plan summary: St John Bosco Catholic Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	October 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 2025
Name of the school music lead	Lucy Hanson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Sandwell Music (SIPS)
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.

Weekly music lessons are delivered by a music curriculum specialist from the local Sandwell Music Service (from SIPS). EYFS and KS1 have weekly session throughout the year and the KS2 classes have longer lessons delivered every other half-term on rotation.

The music curriculum has been written and delivered by this specialist music educator following the national music curriculum progression of skills and is grounded in the pedagogies of Kodaly, Orff and Dalcroze from EYFS to Year 6.

Each musical unit is designed develop musical skills and understanding through practical music making activities which include all the strands: singing, performing, listening and creating. Progression is charted through recordings of end of unit performances and assessment is in the moment through feed-back designed to drive forward skills development; higher order musical questioning helps to deepen and gauge musical understanding.

Playing musical instruments is at the heart of all of the lessons: the children start playing tuned and untuned instruments from EYFS and continue to progressively develop their instrumental and ensemble skills all the way through to Year 6, preparing them for their transition into KS3.

Selected year groups also enjoy playing whole class instruments, such as recorders, to widen their opportunities of exploring making music in a variety of ways.

Music lessons explore many styles of global music: African, East Asian, Calypso, Samba and European Classical, as well as popular styles such as Rap/Hip Hop, Soul/Funk, Disco and Rock music.

Music is planned and delivered to be inclusive for all students, ensuring every child can access music making in a fun, supportive and developing manner.

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.

There are opportunities for the children of the school in all year groups to join after-school clubs with music making opportunities. The offers can vary by instrument, but a school choir will be available throughout the academic year.

Because of the links with the local music service provided by the visiting specialist music teacher, parents and children will be signposted to outside ensembles open to children, such as a local Community Band, Tabla lessons and a local music ensemble run at Splinter Studios in Wednesbury.

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.

Musical sharing assemblies are scheduled throughout the year: there are annual Christmas Carol performances both in school and at Holy Name Church for children in KS2 and an annual Nativity production that involves all children in EYFS and KS1.

In addition to this, the children share their performances by singing and playing as class ensembles in assemblies that sometimes include an audience of parents.

Sharing days are planned in most subjects, including Music, when families/carers are invited to join in on lessons, giving the children the opportunity to show off their skills and for parents to get an insight into the Music Education provided by the school.

Singing together as a whole school is a regular occurrence through hymn practices and weekly mass.

In the future

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

Pupil Voice questionnaires have been developed to gather the thoughts and opinions of the students themselves to help inform the planning of provision for 2025-2026 in terms of adapting planning, adding new instruments for whole class (such as ukuleles in KS2).

The school is in contact with the Sandwell Music Service to help increase the amounts of performance opportunities and events that children can attend both out of school and visitors in school for the next academic year. In the event that events cannot be fully subsidised, it may have to be considered to pass on costs to parents, but keeping them as low as possible.

Budget for providing experiences and opportunities for children to have 1:1 or small group instrumental tuition is always a consideration and has been limited in the past, but the school endeavour to ensure that all pupils have the chance to access quality music making and will continue to search for ways to provide as many musical opportunities as it can to aid in the personal development of all pupils at the school.