

Music development plan summary: St Peter's RC Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miss Rachel Farran
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs Joanne Callaghan
Name of local music hub	Bolton and Blackburn with Darwen Music Service. Greater Manchester and Blackburn with Darwen Music Education Hub.
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 EYFS the main focus is singing and rhythm, although there are opportunities to explore instruments through some music lessons and continuous provision. In EYFS there is a weekly discrete music lesson which increases in length throughout the year. In addition, singing takes place throughout the school day, often linked to other learning opportunities, such as the singing of number rhymes. All our pupils are taught to listen attentively, move to and talk about music, expressing their feelings and responses; sing in a group or on their own, increasingly matching the pitch and following the melody; they explore and engage in music making and dance, performing solo or in groups.

Within our curriculum music in KS1 and KS2, we teach all aspects of National Curriculum music and adhere to the recommendations in the Model Music Curriculum 2021.

<https://www.stpetersrc.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=175&type=pdf>
<https://www.stpetersrc.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=176&type=pdf>

Curriculum music in our school is timetabled to be taught weekly in KS1 and KS2; this includes a music lesson plus 5 minutes Music Appreciation each day (utilising the music list from Model Music Curriculum 2021). Music also forms part of School Assemblies, Masses and Class

Liturgies through the singing of songs and hymns. This gives the children the experience of singing as part of a larger group.

Music lessons in school focus on the Inter-related dimensions of music. In KS1 and KS2, every music lesson in our school will include the teaching of singing and have opportunities for listening and appraising. This will be supported by the Kapow Music Scheme. Lessons include a focus on pulse and rhythm, and include opportunities for children to play tuned and untuned percussion instruments, improvising and composing their own pieces. In KS1 children begin to recognise and use informal methods of notation, moving towards formal notation in KS2. These elements may be taught using music technology in KS2.

Our music medium term plans detail how we teach music each half term and ensure that we teach age appropriate singing, listening, performing, reading notation, music technology, improvising and composing. When appropriate we make links to the broader curriculum, especially through singing and music appreciation. Our Medium Term Plans meet the objectives from the 2014 National Curriculum.

In our MTPs we learn about and explore music from different cultures (for example, Chinese music, Samba from Brazil, music from Africa, music from the Caribbean) although this should be developed further.

Singing is a strength of our school. Children sing in curriculum music, in worship and in concerts. Children sing songs as recommended in the Model Music Curriculum, for example, children learn to sing simple melodies in KS1 and begin to increase the range of notes and complexity as the pupils get older. 'Kapow' provide a good support for non-music specialists in curriculum Music as it contains 'teacher videos' which can be accessed easily via the website. Ten Ten, Mark 10 Mission and 'Fischy music' provide a good support for non-music specialists in worship. Y3/4 children take part in weekly singing sessions led by Salford Diocese Singing group. They have performed at concerts during the year. These lessons also cover the inter-related dimensions of music, along with some work on notation.

Pupils in KS1 KS2 have access to whole-class instrument lessons, taught by the class teacher. The instruments used are full class sets of glockenspiels and recorders plus a variety of untuned percussion, all owned by the school.

Music Technology is mainly taught through the PurpleMash Units: Making Music.

All pupil premium children are fully engaged with curriculum music. All SEN pupils have been able to fully access curriculum music. All children are provided with the same opportunities for learning in music, regardless of gender, culture, race, disability, learning difficulties or social circumstances.

We use the following Key resources: Kapow (especially for curriculum music and instrumental teaching), BBC 10 pieces, BBC Radio (for songs linked to topics), Out of the Ark (for songs linked to topics when appropriate). Teachers also access music/songs via the internet.

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.

All our pupils sing tunefully and with confidence in worship; pupils sing to a flute or to backing tracks, e.g. Fischy music or MP3 hymns.

We use singing to help 'sticky' learning in other subjects through, for example, songs which link to our history topic, songs which help us to learn the names of the oceans and/or continents in geography. Teachers use BBC Teach or Ten Pieces to add music into a range of curriculum subjects.

The School Choir meets for a rehearsal once a week. The children learn a variety of songs from different genres, such as musicals and rock/pop music. The children have the opportunity to perform in concerts, in church and in the community (for example in Spring Bank Court for the residents at Christmas time).

A guitar club run by school staff is open to KS2. They meet each week and perform at a range of events, e.g. the Parish concert in St. Peter's Church.

Pupil premium pupils are able to access the free choir and guitar clubs and are given priority if the clubs are oversubscribed.

Currently, we do not have a school orchestra but this is something we would like to develop.

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 day, each class listens to a piece of music which is relevant and from a genre listed in the Music Model Music Curriculum. They will listen to this genre of music over the course of one week to give them familiarity with it. Where appropriate they will be given information about the piece of music, the instruments and the composers. The music is from a range of time periods, styles and cultures, and from diverse composers.

Pupils perform in a production at least three times during primary school; The EYFS Blessing of the Crib service; the Y2 Nativity; the Y6 leavers production + in class assemblies (x3 a year) for the rest of the school and their parents.

All pupils have the opportunity to listen to live music in and out of school i.e.

- our pupils and music teachers perform for parents and the school;
- visiting musicians perform during assemblies and workshops.

We provide further musical experiences for our children, giving them the chance to play an instrument they may not have experienced before. These have included:

- guitar workshops
- learning to play the spoons
- African drumming workshops

In partnership with PE we realise the importance of dance and moving expressively to music. Dance is taught as part of our PE curriculum to a range of different musical styles, for example Street Dance. Specialist teachers have come into school to teach the children a range of dances to a range of musical styles.

Parents are charged for external visits, i.e. to the theatre and to watch a concert. Pupil Premium children are able to access these experiences for 50% of the cost.

In the future

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

Miss Farran will continue to undertake the role of Music Subject from September 2025. She will access CPD through the Music Hub. Miss Farran will be able to attend Music network meetings each term. Support from the music hub can be accessed throughout the year.

Funding for music is part of our school budget.

Miss Farran will lead the school choir after school throughout the year. The children will also be given time to explore instruments during some choir rehearsals; such as the recorder, glockenspiel and untuned percussion instruments.

Whole class instrumental lessons will take place as part of the music curriculum, using both tuned and untuned instruments. In addition to this a specific unit will be taught in the spring term of Year 5. The children will learn the recorder and will use standard notation to begin to read music. The children will be able to use an individual recorder for the duration of the unit.

We will aim to strengthen links with local high schools especially to provide more opportunities for listening to live music; we will also aim to ensure that all children have at least one opportunity (if not more) to visit a concert hall and listen to a live orchestra. We will explore other opportunities for high quality musicians to perform for the children in school. Miss Farran will be able to explore options with the support of the music hub from September 2025.

We will improve our teaching of music technology through the use of Purplemash. Our ICT Technician will work alongside Miss Farran to explore technology which will support the teaching of music technology. This will also support teachers in teaching elements of composition. The teaching of Music technology will improve significantly.

We will work to improve the teaching of composition across the school; composing in KS2 can be taught using instruments and notation, and through music technology.

We will further develop the assessment of music. This has begun through the assessments included in the Kapow Scheme. The next step will be to identify children who have an interest in music and to guide them to the correct pathway to develop their talents.

In future years, we will explore the opportunity of developing our instrument teaching to ensure that children have the opportunity to learn an instrument.

As we develop our music experiences in school we will develop a timetable to highlight the events that happen at different points in the year.

We need to increase opportunities for our children to experience and explore music from different cultures beyond what is currently in our curriculum.

Further information

We receive support from Greater Manchester and Blackburn with Darwen Music Education Hub.

We have signposted our pupils to the lessons taught through St Bede's Service and Front Row Music (who have come into school).

The music action plan will be evaluated throughout the year.