Music development plan summary:
St Mary and St Thomas Primary School

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	2024 – 25
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Lyndsey Lewis
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Lyndsey Lewis
Name of local music hub	St Helens Council Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	St Helens Music Hub

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.

When designing our Music curriculum, leaders reviewed the requirements of the National Curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021) and made conscious decisions about the most useful content to be taught and carefully planned the sequencing of content to ensure new knowledge and skills build on what has been taught before and pupils work towards clearly defined end points. Not only did leaders agree on clearly articulated outcomes for each year group, they also mapped out the concepts, skills and knowledge that is systematically taught throughout the school. When first designing our Music curriculum, leaders worked alongside expert consultants from the local Music Hub to create all the carefully planned units of work.

The content of the Music curriculum is broad and ambitious, with high expectations for subject specific knowledge, skill development and vocabulary. It is carefully constructed to ensure cultural capital for all our pupils. Leaders and teachers are ambitious for all pupils, and to that end they successfully adapt the curriculum for our most vulnerable, including pupils with SEND. This ensures they develop the knowledge, skills and abilities to apply what they know and can do with increasing fluency and independence, thus making strong progress from their starting point. This is achieved through our 'keep up, not catch up' pedagogical approach which includes; adaptive teaching, carefully planned scaffolding and expert modelling within lessons, feedback, pre-teach opportunities, and the use of immediate intervention.

All year groups receive an hour of Music education each week, all year. This is delivered by a Music specialist from the local Music Hub from Y4-Y6 and class teachers from Y1 to Y3. In the EYs, whilst the discrete Music lesson is age and stage appropriate in length, their Music education is also woven throughout each day through regular singing opportunities and within the continuous provision areas. During whole class Music lessons, children have the opportunity to learn to sing and play tuned and untuned percussion instruments. In Y3 children begin to learn to play the recorder. In Y4 children begin to learn to play a brass instrument of their choice.

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.

In addition to our planned Music curriculum, children benefit from the following:

- Annual Music Appreciation Day is held for every year group. This has a specific focus to develop the children's knowledge of music from different historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the work of great composers.

- Opportunity to join our an extra-curricular choir/singing group. This is fully funded by school, so free to all children.

- A weekly 20 minute singing practice for Years 1-6 led by a senior leader.

- Opportunity to have small group tuition in brass instruments. Children can loan the instrument from St Helens Music Hub or the Schools Music Service.

Lessons for disadvantaged pupils may be subsidised or free using Pupil Premium funding.

- Our pupils are signposted to the ensembles organised by St Helens Music Hub which is held at St Helens Town Hall.
The application form can be found here:

https://sthelens.gov.uk/article/2919/Join-a-band-choir-or-ensemble

- A biannual school production with a focus on singing and musical instruments is open for all children to audition for

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.

Our Music offer is enhanced in the following ways:

- Visits to see live music and performances are available for all children, every year: Every child has opportunity to attend the Christmas Pantomime and the local theatre; multiple opportunities per year are given to attend additional live theatre and music at local theatres such as Manchester Palace and Liverpool Empire; The St Helens Brass Band host a concert at the school each year for all children to enjoy.

asked for a voluntary donation to fund this visit.

- Every other year we have a whole school production. Children learning to sing and play a musical instrument are encouraged to audition. This is an opportunity to nurture children's interests and talents.

- End of Y6 production which is always a musical piece.

- Early Years and KS1 Nativity 2 nativity performances based around a

selection of songs that tell the Christmas story.

- As part of daily worship, children always sing a hymn to praise and thank God (360

children).

- Early Years pupils take part in Song Fest, a singing experience at the Town Hall organised by our local Music Hub Parents/ carers are asked for a voluntary donation to fund this visit.

- Annual live Christmas Sing-a-Long for Y1-Y6 performed by tutors from St Helens Music Hub. Fully funded by school, so free to all children

- Local secondary schools perform their musicals for all pupils in the school hall.

Whilst parents are usually asked for a voluntary donation for their children to take part in an event, funding is available in particular circumstances e.g. pupil premium eligibility.

In the future

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

- Introduce an annual musical showcase for children who are learning to play a musical

instrument and for our choir.

- Increasing opportunity for children learning to play a musical instrument to showcase

their talent by performing in worship on a regular basis.

- Create a register of pupils with music qualifications to ensure their needs are precisely

catered for in Music lessons.

- Secure links with the recently opened Shakespeare North Playhouse.

-

Further information (optional)

Parents/ carers may find the following links useful:

The Department for Education Music Guide

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people

St Helens Music Service https://sthelens.gov.uk/music

Schools Music Service https://www.schoolsmusicservice.co.uk/