

Music development plan summary: *St Patrick's, A Voluntary Academy*

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 24
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Lucy Gripton
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	N/A
Name of local music hub	Our Lady of Lourdes Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Cathedral Singing Project

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/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.

Our music lessons are carried out by the OLOL Music Service on a Tuesday. Foundation 2 (FS) and Key Stage 1 (KS1) children receive a half an hour lesson each week and Key Stage 2 (KS2) children receive an hour. The music lessons offered allow all children the opportunity to perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians. Although it is a thread throughout our music lessons at St. Patrick's, a key focus for our FS and KS1 children is to learn to sing and to use their voices to create and compose music on their own and as an ensemble. They also have many opportunities to explore different instruments and begin to learn notation. Our pupils in KS2 use the foundations taught in earlier year groups to develop their knowledge further and to aid them in becoming a confident musician, both theoretically and practically as a performer. To encourage our pupils to practice and further develop their skills and understanding, we do offer the use of instruments at home, should a child want to.

Our curriculum is designed to allow our pupils to understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

At St. Patrick's, there is a huge emphasis on music and the importance of it becoming a cross-curricular subject that can be threaded throughout our curriculum. We pride ourselves on being a school that sees music not only as a standalone lesson, but as an opportunity to develop our pupils' knowledge of different cultures, developing their language skills, their motor skills and working as a part of a team. Music also positively impacts our emotional health and well-being and can become a tool to support self-regulation. Our music curriculum is appropriately adapted to suit the needs of individual pupils and therefore enabling an environment where all children can thrive and succeed, regardless of their individual needs.

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.

As well as whole class music lessons, we also offer individual and group instrumental lessons. Children have a range of instruments to choose from, including brass, woodwind, percussion, strings, piano and voice. These lessons are taught by OLOL teachers. Our pupils have opportunities to perform skills taught within these lessons during our annual Pat Fest concert and our Arts concerts that are held throughout the year. Children are offered the opportunity to take the ABRSM exams and are fully supported by their teacher, should they want to explore this route. Pupil premium from Y2 upwards children are offered free music tuition should they want to develop a particular musical instrument outside of whole class lessons.

In addition to this, we have our school choir, Years 3, 4, 5 and 6, who rehearse every Wednesday. The choir are involved in numerous concerts both in school and the local/wider community, including a local nursing home and Young Voices. As a Catholic school, hymn practices, worship time and Mass are at the centre of all that we do; the school choir lead our school community in masses throughout the year. There are opportunities for children to develop their love of performing by singing solo and as part of an ensemble during concerts.

Our Year 3 and Year 4 children take part in the Nottingham Diocese Cathedral Singing Project each year with Christopher Davies, where they have the opportunity to extend their musical understanding and develop their understanding of the voice. They learn a wealth of new songs, including in different languages, work on their technical abilities and again, have the opportunity to perform in a termly concert in a local church and at school.

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 school choir will be taking part in Young Voices January 2025, an excellent opportunity to experience a live performance, as well as singing with lots of other schools from around the country.

Our school choir take a lead role in masses, hymn practices, Liturgies, concerts, nativities and their own concerts on a termly basis.

Each term we hold an assembly which showcases our children's talents from across the Arts. This heavily involves music and choir. Pupils are given the opportunity to perform all that they've been learning during their individual/group lessons as well as whole class music lessons. In addition to this, we hold an annual Pat Fest concert, where all the year's learning comes together as a huge concert to demonstrate to parents/carers and our wider school community the progression from Foundation Stage, all the way up to Year 6. This concert also includes individual performances, duets, trios and ensembles.

Each term this year, our Y3 and Y4 children will participate in a school within the local church or in school to showcase all that they've learnt within their lessons with Chris Davies. Our first concert is in December 2024, where St. Patrick's will come together with other local schools to perform.

We have links with our feeder Secondary School, All Saints, who come throughout the year to perform their theatrical performances to the staff and children.

In the future

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

Our actions to develop music further:

- An instrumental live performance for pupils to attend
- Band workshop – during/after school day,
- Increase individual lessons further.
- Develop emsembles