

Music development plan summary: St Mary's CE Academy

2025-2026

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 25
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 26
Name of the school music lead	Sylvie Roux
Name of SLT member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Sheffield Music Hub
Name of other music education organization(s) (if partnership in place)	Get Set 4 Education

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.

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.

At Key Stages 1 and 2, pupils receive a minimum of 45 minutes of music teaching a week. We use Get Set 4 Music, which allows the children to develop their skills in listening, composing and performing. Our curriculum is informed by the model music curriculum.

Children access a whole-class instrumental programme from Year 2 upwards. They learn the descant recorder using Abracadabra books and other resources. As children progress, they will be given the opportunity to play in ensembles and to learn the treble recorder.

Children access both rhythmic and melodic instruments in Key Stage 1 and 2 as part of the whole-class instrumental programme and in other classroom teaching.

Children who play an instrument outside of school are encouraged to share their skills and knowledge in lesson time and assemblies.

Part B: Extra-curricular music

This is about opportunities for people 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 children at St Mary's sing daily in assembly. One assembly slot is timetabled for children to practice songs for upcoming celebrations such as Harvest festival. This assembly is led by one of our Assistant Heads, Rebekah Binney. There are also opportunities for children to sing outside of lesson time, such as the Young Voices choir which again is led by Rebekah Binney.

From September 2024, all children from Year 2 upwards have their own recorder in school which in time, we hope they can take home to practice in-between lessons. Year 6 will be able to take their instrument when they leave primary school, at the end of the year, as a gift from St. Mary's, in the hope they will carry on playing a musical instrument and this skill becomes part of their life.

Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we can organize, such as singing in assembly, concerts and shows and trips to professional concerts.

All children participate in a weekly singing collective worship and regularly sing in other assemblies.

Foundation Stage will be attending a musical performance and children higher up in the school will experience theatre workshops throughout the year. Watching theatrical performances teaches children to think creatively and analyse topics in a whole new way.

Theatre immerses audiences in stories about people (and creatures!) from every conceivable walk of life. Good live theatre is highly engaging and teaches children to slow down, sit still and pay attention for an hour or more at a time.

Theatre can help to build a child's moral compass. Children are just learning what all the different possibilities are and trying out novel ways of handling difficult situations. Theatre performances take on tough problems and demonstrate ways to navigate them. Seeing what works and what doesn't on the stage gives children a safe space to experiment with their own values, ultimately building the moral foundation that will serve them throughout their lives.

Theatre performances teach clear communication and demonstrate the problems that can arise from miscommunication. Theatre also expands children's vocabularies and introduces them to new ways of communicating such as song and dance.

Theatre is arguably one of the best possible places to fire up a child's imagination. Watching comedies, dramas, and musicals unfold sparks children to imagine themselves in the roles of the characters.

Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 perform a Christmas nativity (which involves singing) to an audience each year. Towards Christmas, Key Stage 2 classes perform carols to their parents/carers. They also perform in local supermarkets and care homes. This gives the children experience of singing in front of an audience which helps children to learn to harmonise and synchronise their voices, they learn to listen to others and adjust their pitch and tone accordingly. This helps the children to sing as part of a team and develop teamwork skills and gives them a sense of belonging which boosts their social skills tremendously.

Year 3 pupils perform the Passion Play in St Mary's Church each Easter. Year 6 perform a summer performance each year. All children sing in the performance and some children sing solo parts.

In the future

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

Our aim is to increase children's access to music by setting up music clubs and ensembles and through a yearly summer concert to allow children to perform to parents and carers.

We will plan to involve staff and/or parents who have a musical background to demonstrate that playing music is a life skill that provides enjoyment to all ages. Staff/parents will be invited into school to share their passion and interest in music.

We will increase the number of musical performances that children attend to give them a wider experience of styles of music and appreciation of music in all different settings.

We will expose our children to a wide range of music through our Get Set curriculum.