



St Mary's Primary School - Music Development Plan

Vision and Aims

'A high-quality music education should engage and inspire pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement.' (Department of Education, National Curriculum.)

At St Mary's C of E Primary School we use the CUSP curriculum which aims to ensure that all pupils gain a firm understanding of what music is through listening, singing, playing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres. Our objective is to develop a curiosity for the subject, as well as an understanding and acceptance of the validity and importance of all types of music, and an unbiased respect for the role that music may wish to be expressed in any person's life. We are committed to ensuring children understand the value and importance of music in the wider community, and are able to use their musical skills, knowledge, and experiences to involve themselves in music, in a variety of different contexts.

CUSP MUSIC CURRICULUM

Each block includes the study of significant musicians and musical works, with the intention of exposing pupils to a wide range of music that will inspire them and connect them to the world around them.

Core areas of study include singing, listening and appraising, composing and improvising and instrumental performance. These are built cumulatively throughout the curriculum to ensure that all pupils develop their engagement with, and knowledge of, music over time. This includes a focus on learning to play a range of instruments confidently. CUSP Music aims to build a strong and rich musical culture in schools, in which pupils can thrive.

As with all CUSP subjects, CUSP Music has a strong emphasis on the language that pupils need to explore their own musicality. This is carefully and deliberately planned so that pupils revisit and embed this knowledge over time.

Using a variety of instruments as well as their own voices, we strive to promote creativity and curiosity with opportunities to make original compositions, encouraging the children to comment, evaluate and offer advice on their own work and that of their peers within a safe environment to do so. Developing a wide range of vocabulary so that they can be confident when discussing the subject. Pupils are encouraged to experiment, through improvisation and composition to find different ways in which to be creative, express a feeling or as a form of communication as well as develop performance skills. We aim to provide children with the opportunity to confidently progress in their creativity and expression along with working with others.

Overview

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| Academic year that this summary covers | 2024 - 2025 |
| Date of publication | April 2025 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | April 2026 |
| Name of the school Music Lead | Hayley Cupit |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | N/A |
| Name of local music hub | Leicestershire Music Hub |
| Name of other music education organisations (if a partnership is in place) | CUSP Music |

Part A: Curriculum Music

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| <p>How much lesson time is spent on music per week in KS1?</p> | <p>45 mins</p> |
| <p>How much lesson time is spent per week in KS2?</p> | <p>60 mins</p> |
| <p>What opportunities do pupils have to learn to sing or play an instrument during lesson time? (For example, through whole class ensemble teaching in some or all year groups).</p> | <p>CUSP Music is taught from Years 1 – 6. Each year group has 6 blocks of 5 weeks teaching. This is planned across a 2 year rolling programme, due to our mixed age classes. Additional weeks in the academic year can be used for consolidation, revisiting or enrichment. The curriculum is designed to be delivered in 45 – 60 minute lessons, depending on the age of pupils and stage of learning. Most year groups follow the one lesson a week model, although some do a double lesson on rotation with other subjects, for example, teachers may choose to deliver one CUSP Music lesson over two shorter blocks of time.</p> <p>Across the year, each year group will focus on developing singing, playing a range of untuned and tuned instruments and building their knowledge about music and its cultural impact. Pupils will build their knowledge and musical skills year on year, becoming more expert in playing and appraising a wide range of musical styles as well as developing an understanding of musical vocabulary.</p> |
| <p>How do partnerships with external organisations support curriculum music? (For example, your local music hub)</p> | <p>We have used the local music offer in past years for our Year 3 and 4 pupils to learn instruments such as the guitar and glockenspiel</p> <p>Our children in KS2 take part in Young Voices every other year.</p> <p>Our children will be taking part in the Leicestershire Music Service Concerts at De Montfort Hall next academic year.</p> <p>The school has close links with pupils who have left St Mary’s and we organise for ex pupils to come in and perform to the whole school. Some of these pupils have gone on to read Music at university and are now pursuing professional careers in music.</p> |
| <p>What do pupils learn? (a brief summary of what pupils learn, what instruments all pupils learn through curriculum lessons and the opportunities pupils have to sing in curriculum time - include link to the school’s published music curriculum long term overview).</p> | <p>During KS1, CUSP Music aims to secure strong musical foundations for pupils. This includes a strong focus on learning musical vocabulary and significant opportunities to master rhythm and pulse. As pupils move into KS2, they will begin to learn the glockenspiel, alongside exploring a range of other tuned and untuned instruments. The aim is that by the end of Year 4, pupils will have secured a good level of technical and creative skill in playing the glockenspiel and this lays the foundations for pupils to go on to learn the keyboard throughout Years 5 and 6. For each year group, blocks provide the opportunity for pupils to prepare and perform musical compositions. In KS1, this is woven into several blocks to build pupils’ confidence and experience base. Throughout KS2, pupils begin to perform in different musical ensembles, culminating in them performing their own compositions and improvisations by the end of Year 6. Pupils will be taught to read music from the earliest stages with the expectation of this gradually developing as pupils’ experience base builds. Music from a wide range of cultures, time periods and traditions are studied across</p> |

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| | <p>the curriculum, with plenty of opportunities for pupils to revisit significant musicians and compositions within and across years. This is important to help pupils embed learning and make connections between what they already know and their new learning.</p> |
| <p>How are disabled pupils or those with special educational needs (SEND) supported to access the music curriculum? (link to school's published SEND info)</p> | <p>As part of the planning and preparation for the delivery of each block, teachers adjusted the pedagogy and activity to ensure that pupils with SEND are able to access the materials and participate fully in the lesson. Intellectual content and design copyright. Additional visual prompts are given to help them understand what is expected of them. Some pupils may require individual task boards to enable them to follow a series of steps where a task has been broken down into smaller, more manageable chunks. Assistance with adapting plans is given to teachers from the subject lead when planning music sessions, especially for our pupils with SEND. Where appropriate pupils are given pre-teaching to allow them to listen to pieces of music independently in a quieter environment or using headphones and have the opportunity to experiment with new instruments before a classroom activity.</p> |

Part B: Extra Curricular Music

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| <p>Summarise the musical tuition that is offered to pupils outside of what is taught in curriculum music, including one to one, small group and large group tuition for instruments and voice.</p> | <p>The school offers choir as an extra-curricular activity (Year 2 to Year 6), run by the Music Lead. Choir is focussed towards creating harmonies and working towards performances such as singing at local care homes, Concerts</p> <p>The school offers peripatetic music lessons for all pupils. Woodwind, strings, keyboard and brass.</p> <p>The school pays for a whole class to learn a musical instrument for one term a year.</p> <p>Pupils in receipt of Pupil Premium are offered to learn to play a music lesson for one year.</p> <p>During the summer term, when we are rehearsing for our end of year performance, the head of school gives 1 to 1 and small group singing sessions to support pupils in their roles.</p> |
| <p>How does the school ensure that pupils experiencing disadvantage are prioritised for access to music tuition?</p> | <p>Extra-curricular activities are available to all and from all year groups. Choir is free so there is no financial impact on the families. Teachers can suggest children they feel may benefit from these opportunities as well. Individual instrument tuition is offered to all children to learn. These lessons are delivered by a peripatetic music teacher. For pupils experiencing disadvantage, the school work with parents to offer support to cover the cost of musical instrument hire so that they are not excluded from the opportunity for private tuition.</p> |
| <p>How does the school work with families to encourage pupils to engage with music tuition?</p> | <p>We hold regular concerts and performances which promote learning a musical instrument.</p> <p>We invite peripatetic music teachers in to hold assemblies where the children and parents can be exposed to learning about an instrument.</p> <p>We send regular emails promoting learning an instrument.</p> <p>The Head of School works with parents to offer support financially if families are experiencing disadvantage.</p> |

Part C: Musical Experiences

| Musical Experience / Event | Charging information |
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| <p>Our children are given many opportunities to perform their music throughout their school lives. In music lessons, children are encouraged to perform in small groups and also as part of a musical ensemble and these performances are to the rest of their class or parallel class in the same year group.</p> <p>Digital performance - In KS2 the children are encouraged to digitally perform their pieces through the use of their iPads and screen sharing when they have made a composition.</p> <p>Choir - The school choir is invited to sing at various different venues throughout the year from school functions, concerts to singing at the local care homes. These are enjoyed by all and are free of charge to those participating. This is for up to 30 children at a time from primarily KS2 classes.</p> <p>Performance assemblies - instrument players perform to the rest of the school and parents at least 3 times a year to model what they have been learning that term.</p> <p>Worship - Pupils perform as children are walking into assembly and also during celebrations assembly where parents are invited to come in.</p> <p>Singing in assembly is encouraged as part of our weekly celebration assembly and we have a singing assembly weekly as well. We use a variety of songs linked to our values and children’s interests and preferences and also use singup.org.</p> <p>CUSP Festival of Spoken Word - pupils will have the opportunities to engage with songwriters, performers and lyricists.</p> <p>KS2 performance every summer. All pupils perform in this and our Year 6s take the main leads. Previous musicals include Matilda, Wizard of Oz, Oliver, Bugsy Malone.</p> <p>We have a timetable where different year groups take the leads in different performances. E.g. Year 4 pupils lead the Easter performance which includes lots of solo singing. Year 5 and 6 take the lead solo roles in our Christmas Concert.</p> <p>Year 6 perform in the leavers service - this involves lots of singing and instrumental performing.</p> | <p>All of these activities are free</p> |

In the Future

| Aspect of Provision | Intended Outcomes | Key Actions | By When? |
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| Part A Curriculum Provision | | | |
| Singing | All children given the opportunity to perform in a group environment (on a larger scale) | <p>A termly “music assembly” where specific year groups will be given the chance to perform a piece of music from their lessons, sing a song they have learnt or lead the school in a singing / music activity.</p> <p>Involvement with Leicestershire Music Service - concerts at De Montfort Hall, inviting parents and families to attend. Include KS1 and KS2.</p> | Autumn term |
| Playing | Provide access for children to a wider range of instruments | <p>Strengthen links with local secondary schools to invite students in to perform to pupils.</p> <p>Fundraising and grants have been applied for to increase the amount and quality of instruments to support their class such as keyboards and glockenspiels.</p> <p>Increase the amount of ex pupils returning to perform to the school.</p> | <p>The dates of these will be subject to availability etc.</p> <p>Spring 2026</p> |
| Composing | Ensure children receive high quality music education using CUSP Music curriculum | <p>CUSP training to deliver curriculum effectively with high expectations for all children to achieve</p> <p>Staff who have expertise in music to continue to teach music across the school.</p> | Ongoing throughout the year |
| Listening | Wider range of experiences of listening to live music. | <p>A wide variety of music provided during the school day.</p> <p>Music in worship - introduce a clear plan of music coverage for the year.</p> | Autumn term |
| Part B - Extra curricular provision | | | |
| Extra Curricular | Promote the “fun” aspect of music – available to all. | <p>Singing club</p> <p>Choir</p> | Spring term |

Part C - Musical Experiences

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| <p>Musical experiences</p> | <p>Introducing the children to a larger range of musical experiences. External performance opportunities</p> | <p>Inviting more musicians into school. KS2 De Montfort University Winter Song Festival KS1 De Montfort Hall Singing Workshop Young Voices</p> | <p>Summer Term Winter Term Spring term</p> |
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