

# Music development plan summary: St Mary's Catholic Primary School

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	July 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Jonathan Graham
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	See above
Name of local music hub	Cumbria Music Service

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.

St Mary's music curriculum is delivered through the Kapow Primary Music scheme of work and is informed by the National Curriculum for Music and the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021). The curriculum provides a progressive sequence of learning from Year 1 to Year 6, enabling pupils to develop their skills in singing, performing, composing, listening and appraising.

Detailed curriculum information for each year group can be found on the school's curriculum webpage <https://www.stmarys-harrington.cumbria.sch.uk/page/?title=Music&pid=106>.

The school is committed to ensuring that all pupils, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), can access and participate fully in music education. Information about SEND provision can be found on the school's SEND webpage <https://www.stmarys-harrington.cumbria.sch.uk/page/?title=SEND&pid=28>.

Curriculum music is taught for at least 30 minutes in KS1 and up to 1 hour per week in KS2. Pupils regularly participate in singing activities and have opportunities to play tuned and untuned percussion instruments within lessons.

## **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.

At St Mary's, we offer the children in Key Stage 2 the opportunity to take part a school choir. The choir meets weekly after school and plan to showcase their performances within assemblies and to the local community through visits off-site. We also take part in various community events across the year, such as singing for the elderly in the local community and carol singing at local supermarkets. Weekly, we hold 30-minute singing practise assemblies for children in all classes. Focused songs are then performed during visits to church. In the early Years, the children access 'Poetry Basket' Each week they learn a new poem which they then perform in class.

## **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.

## Opportunities for Music-Making Beyond the Curriculum

At St Mary's, pupils are encouraged to develop their musical interests and talents beyond their weekly curriculum music lessons through a range of performance and singing opportunities.

Throughout the year, pupils have opportunities to perform for audiences both within school and in the wider community. A highlight of the school's musical calendar is the opportunity for pupils to perform at the Carnegie Theatre, where they showcase their singing and performance skills as part of larger community events.

All pupils take part in a weekly hymn practice, where they learn and rehearse a range of traditional and contemporary hymns. These sessions help to develop pupils' singing skills, musical confidence, pitch awareness and understanding of collective performance, whilst supporting the school's Catholic ethos and preparation for acts of worship and liturgical celebrations.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Key Stage 1, pupils participate in Christmas performances, developing their confidence, singing ability and enjoyment of performing. In Key Stage 2, pupils take part in musical productions and performances based on a variety of genres, including musical theatre, providing opportunities to sing as part of an ensemble and perform to an audience.

Pupils also have opportunities throughout the year to join the school choir. The choir enables children to further develop their vocal skills, learn a wider repertoire of songs and participate in performances at school and community events.

To broaden pupils' cultural experiences and appreciation of the performing arts, children in Years 4, 5 and 6 have opportunities to visit professional theatre productions. Recent visits have included Years 5 and 6 attending a performance of Shrek The Musical in Glasgow, while Year 4 pupils visited the Blackpool Grand Theatre to watch a production of The Boy at the Back of the Class. These experiences help pupils develop their understanding of live performance, musical theatre and the wider arts industry, whilst inspiring creativity and a lifelong appreciation of the arts.

These opportunities support pupils in making progress beyond the core music curriculum by developing their musical skills, confidence, teamwork and enjoyment of music-making.

Some of our events are often free of charge to families or a minimal voluntary donation is asked for.

## In the future

As part of our ongoing commitment to enhancing music provision, St Mary's aims to further develop opportunities for pupils to engage with music beyond the classroom. We plan to expand our extra-curricular music offer through the introduction of after-school music clubs, providing pupils with opportunities to learn and play a musical instrument, develop ensemble skills and perform with others. We will explore partnerships with local music providers and the local music hub to support instrumental tuition and increase access to a wider range of musical experiences. These developments will help to nurture musical talent, raise participation in music and provide clear progression pathways for pupils wishing to develop their musical skills further.

We will also work closely with our local Music Hub to explore opportunities for instrumental tuition, workshops, performances and specialist music provision for our pupils.

## Further information (optional)

Use this space to provide any further information about your school's music development plan, including links to your local music hub partners, other local music education organisations and contacts.

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school. The link is as follows - [Music education: information for parents and young people - GOV.UK](#)