

Music development plan summary: St John's Cathedral Catholic Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	24-25
Date this summary was published	September 4 th 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 25
Name of the school music lead	Hayley Warren
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Hayley Warren
Name of local music hub	Portsmouth Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	St John's Cathedral

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.

At St John's all children gain a firm understanding of what Music is through the skills of listening, singing, performing, evaluating, analysing, and composing across a wide variety of historical periods, styles, traditions, and musical genres. All children are taught music lessons weekly by specialist teachers, through a variety of music curriculum lessons, whole class instrumental lessons, curriculum workshops and our co-curricular offer. Children with special educational needs often thrive in music and at St John's we ensure access for all.

Children develop a curiosity for the subject and form their own opinions and preferences of the music they enjoy, whilst learning to appreciate views and opinions that differ from their own. We teach the children to think critically about their own music making and any form of music they encounter. They are provided with knowledge of the orchestra, a broad range of diverse national and international

composers, are shown different ways music can be structured and how music can create a mood or an emotional response. Children continually learn ongoing skills that are planned and taught progressively from Reception until Year 6. These skills are assessed through performances and children are given opportunities to improve and develop themselves as musicians. Units of learning, where authentically possible, are linked closely with termly class topics, planned, sequenced and reviewed regularly. Children are also given the opportunity to initiate their learning, choosing repertoire and using their transferrable skills to organise, lead and appraise activities.

As well as using tuned and un-tuned instruments effectively to perform, all children are encouraged to develop their singing technique through our vocal strategy and are offered a broad range of quality and rich performing experiences throughout their primary school career. Our scheme of work, assessment information and composer overview have been adapted in accordance with the Model Music Curriculum and resources written by Portsmouth Music Hub.

Our strong extra-curricular offer also provides our children with opportunities to join our school choirs and Ukulele ensemble. We work closely with the Portsmouth Music Hub, our parish and Catholic Diocese to ensure our children understand how music plays a role in the wider community and how they can be involved in this. There are many opportunities for the children to take part in high quality performances and to sing for civil and religious events.

St John's has a strong choral tradition, and this plays an integral part of the school day. Daily assemblies include songs of praise with whole school singing worship on a Friday Morning to begin the day and to share class performances.

Music education is essential in offering our children a well –rounded education. When working in harmony with other subjects it provides our children with; a clear sense of achievement, self-confidence, interaction with and awareness of others, and self-reflection. Music provides a soulful understanding of culture and history, both in relation to our individual pupils and within the world. They are provided with a connection to music.

The rich cultural experiences offered to our children give them a sense of belonging through their own performances whilst also providing them with the ability to share their thoughts, feelings and opinions about music and culture.

Children achieve well in music, talents are nurtured and developed, equipping them to move onto KS3 and the confidence to take up the extra-curricular offer at secondary school.

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.

We offer an inclusive co-curricular music programme at St John's which is currently free for all of our children. We have a very well established KS2 school choir that come into school at 8.15am once a week to rehearse (and more frequently during performance windows). We also have a smaller vocal ensemble (chamber choir) for the most able singers. KS2 can also join the Ukulele ensemble and pupils from both KS1 and KS2 are able to attend our mixed key stage music club, where they can explore music appreciation, music for wellbeing and group instrumental tuition throughout the year. Music making at St John's takes place in our music room, hall and classrooms. Our strong links with Portsmouth Music Hub also provides our pupils with the opportunity to borrow instruments and join city-wide ensembles or seek 1-1 tuition.

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.

St John's Vocal Strategy

We have a strong tradition of singing at St John's. Children sing during collective worship, daily assemblies, class Masses and on Friday there is a dedicated singing worship where all children learn to praise God through song, learn a broad range of repertoire, vocal technique and are given the opportunity perform to their peers and teachers.

Religious Music

Every Christmas, we come together as entire school community to perform our Christmas show at St John's Cathedral. All children are given the opportunity to take part, retelling the story of Christmas through singing, dancing and the spoken word. On Good Friday, children come together in a Celebration of the Word to take part in the Stations of the Cross. There are other opportunities to sing and read at Mass by request of Bishop Phillip (Portsmouth Catholic Diocese) and holy days of obligation.

Music Concerts and Shows

All pupils are offered regular opportunities to perform on the concert platform for parents, community groups and further afield. Please check the Catholic Life page of our school website, class curriculum sways or our Instagram for the latest news. Children also attend musical theatre shows and pantomimes, as well as concerts at the Guildhall to watch the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra perform wide ranging repertoire as well as other renowned ensembles. There are also opportunities for the Portsmouth University Wind Band to come into school for performances and other groups such as 'Rise Theatre' and musicians from 'Portsfest'. The Year 6 pupils will complete their time at St John's by performing a full showcase at the end of the school year.

First Sunday of the Month

All children from our school are invited to come to 12 O'clock Mass and undertake various ministries including leading the singing.

Portsmouth Music Hub

We are very fortunate to be offered high quality opportunities to perform regularly through the Hub. Many of our pupils are part of the 'Cross Keys Choir' who are successful participants in *Music for Youth* including their Albert Hall prom. Pupils in Year 2 will partake in the Infant Voices Festival during the Spring Term as well as other opportunities linked with the Mary Rose Museum and Hub Song book projects.

In the future

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

The school improvement plan and Pupil Premium Strategy is available on our school website.

SIP (Priority 1)

Ensure that all children are reaching their full potential in all aspects of every subject.

Music

- Implement changes to the Composer Overview.

- Refine the teaching of Samba in Year 5 and 6.
- Ensure that EYFS are learning the new nursery rhyme materials based on Catholic Social Teaching.
- Ensure that links to Catholic Social Teaching in Music are embedded within the curriculum.
- Support Music Service staff to actively recruit violinists for the Music Hub beginners orchestra following the completion of the Ready for Music (Violin) Programme 2024
- Investigate and plan an opportunity for an artist in residence to work within St John's.
- Continue to build and maintain relationships with arts organisations.

Further information

Our Music Hub is:

[Portsmouth Music Hub](#)

St John's has consistently achieved an Artsmark Gold Award since 2017.



St John's is partner of the Portsmouth Cultural Education Partnership



St John's is a Music Mark School Member



