

Music development plan summary: St Botolph's CofE Primary

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs G Horsler
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mr C Govey
Name of local music hub	Kent music

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

Our school's music curriculum is comprehensively detailed online. For more information, please visit [St. Botolph's Music Curriculum](#).

Time Allocation:

Each class is allocated 30 minutes per week for music instruction, ensuring consistent and structured learning across all year groups.

Increasing Access for Disabled Pupils and Supporting Pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEND):

We are committed to inclusivity in our music program. Disabled and SEND pupils receive tailored support, including:

Adult Support: Additional assistance from staff during music lessons to ensure these pupils can fully participate.

Selected Instruments: Careful selection of instruments to accommodate the needs and abilities of all pupils, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to engage with and enjoy music.

Curriculum Guidance:

Our music curriculum is informed by the government's guidance and the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021). Additionally, we follow the JustPlay music scheme, which provides a structured approach to teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 3.

Opportunities to Learn:

Students have extensive opportunities to learn and play a variety of instruments during lesson time. These include:

- Keyboard
- Guitar
- Recorders
- Ocarinas
- Ukulele

Every year group participates in whole-class ensemble teaching, fostering teamwork and performance skills.

Partnerships:

We collaborate closely with our school trust, sharing ideas and resources to enhance our music curriculum. This partnership supports a richer and more diverse music education experience for our pupils.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Our school is dedicated to providing numerous opportunities for pupils to engage in music beyond the core curriculum. Below is an overview of our music tuition, ensembles, and progression opportunities available outside of regular lesson time:

Music Tuition:

We offer specialised music tuition through a specialist music teacher, providing:

One-to-One Sessions: Personalised lessons focusing on keyboard, guitar, and drums.

Small Group Sessions: Collaborative learning experiences for students.

Pupil Premium Access: These sessions are available for pupil premium children at no cost, ensuring that financial constraints do not hinder access to music education.

Ensembles and Groups:

Our school offers ensembles and groups for students to join:

School Choir: Open to Key Stage 2 pupils, our school choir is a vibrant group where students can develop their vocal skills. Participation in the choir is free of charge.

Progression in Music:

We provide several avenues for pupils to advance their music skills outside of lesson time:

Weekly Worship Focus: During weekly worship, students are introduced to a focus piece of music, often classical. They learn about the composer, the title of the piece, and its background, enhancing their musical appreciation and knowledge.

Digital Music Integration: For Key Stage 2 pupils, music education is integrated with computing. Students have the opportunity to create and produce their own music using various apps and software, fostering creativity and technical skills.

After-School Musical Theatre Club: This club, which includes singing, dancing and acting, culminates in performances for parents, providing a platform for students to showcase their talents.

Annual Performances: Each year group puts on a performance once a year, presented to the school and parents either in the school hall or at the local church, giving every student a chance to perform.

Rehearsal and Practice:

Pupils can rehearse or practice individually or in groups in designated spaces within the school, ensuring they have the facilities needed to refine their skills.

Part C: Musical experiences

Our school provides a wide range of musical events and opportunities to enrich our students' musical experiences throughout the academic year. Here is an overview of our planned activities:

Regular Musical Events:

Daily Singing in Worship: Singing is an integral part of our daily worship, allowing students to engage with music regularly and develop their vocal skills.

Year Group Performances: Each year group is scheduled to perform at least once during the academic year, ensuring every student has the chance to showcase their talents. These performances are held either in the school hall or the local church and are attended by the school community and parents.

Special Concerts and Shows:

Trust Choir Concert: Our school participates in the Trust choir concert, where our choir joins other schools in the trust to celebrate musical talents collectively.

Young Voices: Students have the opportunity to attend and participate in the Young Voices concert, one of the largest school choir concerts in the world.

Local Events: Our school choir performs at various local events, contributing to community celebrations and enhancing students' public performance skills.

Trips to Professional Performances:

Annual Pantomime Trip: Every Christmas, students go on a trip to see a professional pantomime. This event, while not solely focused on singing or performance, provides students with exposure to professional theatre and live musical performances.

Student Involvement:

Participation: All students from various year groups are given the opportunity to participate in musical performances. Specific events like the Trust choir concert and local event performances involve the school choir, which includes Key Stage 2 pupils.

Audience: Students also experience being part of the audience for performances both within the school (during year group performances) and during external events like the pantomime trip.

Charging Information:

Free Participation: Participation in school-based performances and the school choir is free for all students.

Subsidised Events: For events and trips that have associated costs, such as the pantomime trip, we offer subsidies or cover the costs for pupil premium children to ensure all students can participate without financial barriers.

Partnerships:

School Trust: Our involvement in the Trust choir concert is supported by our school trust, facilitating collaboration and shared resources among schools.

Local Community: By performing at local events, we maintain strong ties with the community, enhancing our students' musical exposure and community engagement.

These diverse musical opportunities are designed to foster a love for music, enhance students' skills, and provide memorable experiences that contribute to their overall development.

In the future

At our school, we are committed to continuously enhancing our music curriculum, co-curricular music programs, and overall musical experiences for our students. Here are some planned improvements for subsequent years:

Enhanced Digital Music Program: We plan to expand our digital music program, incorporating more advanced music production software and tools. This will allow Key Stage 2 students to delve deeper into music creation and production, integrating technology with musical education.

More Trips to Professional Performances: We aim to organise additional trips to professional concerts and theatre performances. Starting next year, we plan to include visits to local symphonies and musical theatre productions, giving students greater exposure to high-quality live music.

Improved Exposure to Various Genres: We will expand the range of musical genres covered during worship. In addition to classical music, students will be exposed to jazz, folk, pop, world music, and more. This will provide a more diverse and inclusive musical experience and help students appreciate a wider spectrum of musical styles.

Comprehensive Music Engagement: The planned enhancements in digital music and additional professional performance trips will ensure our students receive a well-rounded music education that combines practical skills with appreciation and understanding of various music genres and styles.

These improvements reflect our dedication to fostering a rich musical environment where every student can explore, enjoy, and excel in music. Through these initiatives, we aim to nurture our students' musical talents and inspire a lifelong love for music.