# Music development plan summary: St John’s Catholic Primary School, Tiverton Overview

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| Detail | Information |
| Academic year that this summary covers | 2024/2025 |
| Date this summary was published | September 2024 |
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| Name of the school music lead | Catherine Fitton |
| Name of local music hub | Devon |

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.

## Curriculum music

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| Our music curriculum has its basis in Charanga Music which offers a high quality, structured music programme. This is complimented by the use of additional resources from BBC Ten Pieces and ABRSM 100 and Classroom 200 to provide further listening and composing opportunities.  In FSU and KS1 the curriculum provides children with the opportunity to listen and respond to different styles of music, learn to sing nursery rhymes and action songs and to begin to develop an understanding of the musical concepts of pulse, rhythm and pitch. There is also a focus on improvising and playing music using classroom percussion and many opportunities to share and perform music.  In KS2 the curriculum continues to develop children’s understanding of pulse, rhythm and pitch as well as introducing the musical dimensions of duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and simple musical notation through the use of well know songs and musical games. The children learn to sing songs with greater musical understanding and to use tuned classroom percussion (as well as their own instruments) to improvise, compose, record, rehearse and perform in a variety of styles.  Children in KS2 also start to explore the use of music technology through access to Quickbeats in Lower KS2 and YuStudio in Upper KS2.  All children also hear and learn about music from a wide variety of eras and genres in our music focus at the beginning of our weekly Celebration Assembly. The musical extracts are selected from the Charanga Listening Calendar.  **Acorns Class**  In Acorns Class (FSU) music is taught by the class teacher, who is a specialist in Early Years Music. The children receive one class music session a week which is reinforced with continuous provision opportunities and daily songs as part of the classroom routine. During the second half of the academic year the children also attend whole school Prayer and Praise sessions.  **Maple Class**  In Maple Class (Year 1 and Year 2) music is taught in single year group sessions for one hour each week by our Early Years Music teacher. The children also attend Prayer and Praise sessions.  **Willow and Oak Class**  In Key stage 2, curriculum music is taught both by class teachers and a specialist music teacher. Each class has a one-hour music lesson each week as well as attending Prayer and Praise.  Music lessons generally take place in the classrooms using a laptop and screen to provide visuals. Tuned and untuned percussion instruments are stored centrally and moved to classrooms for lessons. A portable keyboard is also available. Peripatetic music lessons take place in a dedicated room, the hall, or wherever there is space.  We assess children's knowledge and understanding by questioning, listening and observation of performance in class as an ongoing process. Children often perform in groups to each other and this gives an opportunity for the teacher to assess children’s achievements and plan into lessons areas for improvement. At the end of the unit, the teacher makes a summative judgement about each individual child according to whether they are working at expected levels, exceeding or working towards, for their year group. This information will be communicated to parents in the written report once yearly. |

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## Co-curricular music

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| **Singing**  Singing is an integral part of the life of our school community. All children sing in Prayer and Praise each week, along with singing within curriculum lessons.  Prayer and Praise takes place every week and is led by one of our KS2 teachers who is a music specialist. In these sessions the whole school learns songs and hymns for collective worship and other occasions, along with warm ups and good singing technique. Here, the children are taught to sing in two- and three-part harmony, sing acapella, in rounds, and with piano accompaniment.  In FSU and KS1 all children participate in the Nativity production, which includes both solo and group singing and all KS2 children take part in the Carol Service which includes a variety of unison and part singing. In KS2 there is also the opportunity to join the ‘Starmakers’ club that sings as a choir and performs an annual musical production in the local theatre. We also have a singing group made up of staff and governors who come together to sing for various concerts and events.  **Whole Class Ensemble Tuition**  In lower KS2 (in addition to their class music sessions) all children take part in whole class ensemble teaching with a specialist brass teacher, paid for by our MEG funding. They learn the PBuzz in Year 3 and the PBone in Year 4. During these sessions, as well as learning to play their instruments, they are taught to read standard musical notation and to identify note values from semibreves to semiquavers. Following these sessions, the children can continue to play by joining our lunchtime trombone club and may eventually choose to have individual or paired lessons.  **Individual and Group Instrumental Tuition**  Children in Year 2 are offered the opportunity to learn the recorder in small groups. This tuition continues into KS2 where the children can progress from descant to treble recorders. In KS2 we also offer children the opportunity to learn PBone on and individual or paired basis following their participation in WCET. The school supports all children to access music tuition by offering a 50% discount on lessons for children receiving PP funding. |

## Musical experiences

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| All children sing together in our Prayer and Praise sessions and as part of weekly Collective Worship, as well as for other whole school gatherings such as Masses or Liturgies to mark significant times in the school and Church Year.  At Christmas, FSU and KS1 perform a musical Nativity to family and friends and KS2 take part in a Carol Service in a local church to which family, friends and the wider parish community are invited.  In KS2 children can join our Starmakers Club which presents an annual summer musical production in our local theatre. This is a ticketed performance and is open to anyone from the town who wishes to attend, the club invites residents of local care homes to attend the dress rehearsal performance free of charge. Starmakers also sing regularly in nearby residential homes, for church and parish events and in Tiverton Pannier Market. Last Christmas they were invited to be part of the Christmas Lights Switch On in town and will be participating in the event again this year.  Starmakers who are in Years 5 and 6 attend Tiverton Junior Operatic Club’s (TJOC) annual performance at a reduced ticket price. TJOC is open to children from 11 years upwards and seeing them perform encourages our children to join the club once they have left our school.  The school has developing links with Blundell’s School and over the last two years the children have been involved in a workshop and performance of Alexander L’Estrange’s cantata ‘Ahoy!’ and have been in the audience for Blundell’s Orchestra Around the World concert.  This year we hope to widen the children’s experience of live music with a visit from a trombone quartet and a Year 6 trip to a musical theatre production. |

## In the future

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| Moving forward we plan to continually review our music curriculum provision to include more aspects of the New Model Music Curriculum and to draw from a wider range of sources.  Our main focus for KS2 children is to increase their understanding of the different eras of music and to be able to identify features and composers associated with these times.  We also aim to continue to develop links with other local schools and groups which could provide further live listening experiences for our children. |