Music development plan summary:
St. Joseph'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	Jane Fiddler
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Katie Cunliffe
Name of local music hub	Lancashire Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	

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. Joseph's we follow 'Kapow' as a scheme of work which provides teachers with well-planned and progressive music lessons, as set out by the National Curriculum.

All children receive an hour-long music lesson each week. At the end of the Autumn term this music is enhanced by the children learning songs (hymns and songs for a Christmas celebration). At the end of the Summer term, Year 4,5 and 6 focus on music which is part of their end of year production.

Our school music curriculum is available to view via our school website

https://www.st-josephs-withnell.lancs.sch.uk/music/

Pupils in our EYFS will access musical opportunities during continuous provision, as well as a more formal, discrete music lesson.

Pupils are given the opportunity to listen to a wide variety of musical genres on entry to assemblies and collective worship, up to 3 times per week and then to 'appraise' what they hear. We use the 'Listening Centre' on Kapow to give the children these opportunities, which we believe increases happiness, strengthens learning and generally improves mental well-being

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 provide weekly, instrumental music tuition outside of our curriculum music lessons, through peripatetic music teachers from Lancashire music service. We currently provide one-to-one and small-group tuition for instruments, including flute, clarinet, piano, keyboard, drums and guitar.

Designated learning spaces are provided within school to meet these pupils' needs. These lessons take place during lunchtimes and some afternoon curriculum time, therefore the music teachers use a rota system, so that the pupils do not miss out on the same learning in class each week.

Lessons are offered to pupils on a PDP (parent direct payment) scheme, where families arrange and pay for their instrumental lessons directly through Lancashire music service.

Some of our pupils take the RSM exams, for example, Grade 1 flute or piano. It is always lovely to celebrate the children's musical achievements in our whole school assemblies.

Parents and carers have the opportunity to pay for peripatetic music lessons in school time and are provided with a choice of lesson types and payment options. Tuition is subsidised or free, for parents or carers in particular circumstances (e.g. pupil premium eligibility).

In KS2, pupils can join the school choir, which takes place one afternoon after school. We enjoy singing and have been involved in the 'Let's Go Sing' concerts for a number of years, performing at King George's Hall, Blackburn and 'Young Voices' concert in Manchester.

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.

We welcome the opportunity to enjoy a live event at the 'Young Voices' concert in Manchester. We tool children from Y3-Y6. The children had to rehearse a variety of songs which were performed at the event alongside an orchestra.

We signpost events that are happening outside school, via the Lancashire music hub, such as woodwind ensembles, orchestras, and music workshops on our weekly school newsletter.

We timetable half-termly hymn practices to prepare for special Masses and Feast Days in our school year or to prepare for a class collective worship.

We sing together as a whole school in assemblies and special celebrations throughout the year.

At St. Joseph's we have three Christmas performances: EYFS/Y1 Nativity and a KS1 Easter play and a large scale end of year production for Y,5 and 6 at the end of the summer term. All are held in the school hall for parents and families to enjoy. KS2 also sing and perform a carol concert play at church, where all families are welcome to attend.

The children who have participated in in lessons with Lancashire Music Service, at the end of each term, perform to the rest of the school in a concert.

In the future

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

- Offer an Ocarina group for children in Year 2 during the lunch time period.
- Support more children, including those with SEND to be involved in peripatetic music lessons provided by LMS.
- Each class to share their 'end of unit' performance from their Kapow music lessons, with another class or in a whole school assembly.
- Invite musicians in to school so that pupils experience live music
- Continue to signpost local musical opportunities to pupils / parents.
- Ongoing staff CPD -music curriculum delivery through Charanga: musical school.
- Book more opportunities for children to be involved in musical experiences

Further information (optional)