

Music development plan summary

St John's RC Primary School

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	Lisa Campbell
Name of local music hub	Rochdale Music Service

This is a summary of how our school delivers the 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.

Music is taught on a rolling programme throughout the year in every class every term and is informed by the model curriculum (March 2021). Lessons are a minimum 60 minutes and are taught by a specialist from Rochdale Music Service supported by the class teachers. In EYFS, music is embedded throughout the curriculum with a focus on rhyme and song. Teachers follow a long-term curriculum plan, taking development matters statements and ensuring a progression of skills throughout Nursery and Reception, preparing children well for the National Curriculum in Y1. Our children have a love of music and enjoy opportunities in both lessons and provision to showcase their musical talents. This musical learning is further supplemented by singing, clubs, and enrichment opportunities throughout the year.

Children in Years 1 to 6 learn an instrument as a whole-class ensemble taught by a specialist from Rochdale Music Service as part of the Wider Opportunities programme. The project lasts for a full term and culminates in a concert where children perform songs and pieces together. These skills are extended beyond the lessons through opportunities across the curriculum and in assemblies.

Singing is also integrated into other areas of the curriculum to support pupils' long-term memory – for example, to remember the names of different rocks in science, or to support recall of Roman numerals in maths. SEND pupils are fully supported in music lessons and will participate in the same activity alongside their peers, with support from a member of staff or additional scaffolding.

Part B: Extra-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 John the Baptist RC Primary School, we currently offer individual and small-group lessons on a variety of instruments through Rochdale Music Service. Teachers visit the school and teach our children to play on a 1:1 or small group basis

We have a thriving Choir which assemble weekly at lunchtime with a designated choir lead. This is free and open to all.

We work closely with Rochdale Music Service to ensure we can offer the best possible music opportunities for our children. If you have an enquiry regarding instrumental lessons and other musical experiences on offer, please visit their website.

<https://www.rochdale.gov.uk/rochdale-music-service>

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.

Children will have the opportunity to perform or experience high quality music this academic year. Please see below for a list of those opportunities:

- Singing in assembly
- Singing in Mass
- Singing in lessons
- Music in EYFS – stage and instruments
- Choir performances (Christmas at the Mews Etc)
- Musical theatre performances at Curtain Theatre (2023/4 and 2024/5)
- Whole class instrument demonstrations for parents

In the future

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

In future years, our Music Development Plan aims to achieve the following:

- Develop and monitor the music scheme to ensure consistency and progression from EYFS through to Year 6.
- Introduction of further whole-class ensemble projects delivered by a music specialist
- Further develop performance opportunities for our young musicians throughout the school year.

Further information (optional)

Add anything in here that hasn't been mentioned before. Some examples of what to include are below.

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.

School engages actively with the Primary Music Leader Network run by RMS, this includes half termly meetings and CPD opportunities throughout the year.

School also engages in the opportunities for large scale, multi school projects such as the annual Opera Project run by RMS and The Royal Opera. This involves children learning and performing an opera each year. This year the Year 5 group all participated in this project.

School actively engages the Music Service every year and this includes the delivery of weekly lessons across guitar, strings and brass. There is also the annual provision for whole class projects which are string based in Year 4.

RMS is part of the GM Music Hub and as such there are opportunities to perform at hub events, especially the GM celebration concert at The Bridgewater Hall and Come and Play with the Halle. Information about how schools and students can be part of these Hub events are shared via the Music Leader Network.