

# Music development plan summary: *St. John's CofE Primary School*

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024/25
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Phoebe Wood
Name of local music hub	West of England Music (WEMA)

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, music is taught weekly across all classes, guided by the National Curriculum and enhanced by the GetSet4Music curriculum scheme. This is further enriched by whole-school worship sessions that focus on singing, held weekly. Additionally, we have curated a bespoke playlist that introduces students to a variety of artists, genres, and instruments, broadening their musical understanding and fostering a lifelong appreciation for the subject.

Our curriculum is both topic-based and progressive, allowing children to revisit and build upon their prior knowledge and understanding. We explore music through the interrelated dimensions of music while focusing on the development of essential skills, knowledge, and confidence required to become proficient musicians. Students will enhance their abilities in singing, playing both tuned and untuned instruments, improvising, composing, and responding to music.

In Year 4, whole-class instrumental lessons are provided for the ukulele.

We understand that musical abilities vary among students, so we offer opportunities that cater to all levels by setting open-ended tasks with varying levels of challenge. For pupils with SEND, we are committed to creating an inclusive and supportive learning environment where they can actively participate and express themselves without barriers.

## **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.

St. John's partners with West of England Music (WEMA) to offer instrumental and voice lessons. These lessons are available on a one-to-one or small group basis and take place weekly throughout the academic year. Currently, many of our students are learning various instruments and are given opportunities to showcase their progress to their peers and the wider school community. Tuition can be subsidised for pupils eligible for pupil premium. For more details, including pricing, please visit the WEMA website:

<https://wema.org.uk/young-people-and-families/learn-to-play-a-musical-instrument/>

Our school choir meets weekly to prepare for performances held throughout the year. They have performed a range of musical genres, including musical theatre, pop, and gospel. Additionally, we run a Young Voices choir during the Autumn and Spring terms.

Many of our students have formed their own bands and enjoy meeting regularly to practise in the Ann Harris Room, our dedicated music space.

## **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.

Throughout the year, our pupils have numerous opportunities to perform for their peers and the wider community. We are fortunate to partner with St. John the Baptist Church in Midsomer Norton, which provides a beautiful setting for many of our performances. Here, we hold our Harvest, Christmas, and Easter services, where the entire school sings hymns we have prepared. Our choir is often invited to perform during church services and also hosts lunchtime concerts for the local community.

We also organise a summer musical showcase, giving our KS2 children the opportunity to perform. This child-led event features both solo and ensemble performances.

Each year, our EYFS and Year 1 children rehearse and perform a Nativity for their families, while our Year 2 children present a Carols by Candlelight service in the church.

St. John's also participates in Young Voices annually, where we perform as part of the world's largest children's choir, having previously travelled to venues such as the O2 Arena and Wembley Arena. This extracurricular opportunity is open to children in Years 4-6, who meet weekly to prepare for the event.

Our Year 6 children have the opportunity to perform in an end of year production, performing on stage with vocals.

Additionally, WEMA offers a variety of performance opportunities throughout the year, which our pupils are encouraged to take part in. More information can be found on the WEMA website: <https://wema.org.uk/>

## In the future

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

At St. John's we are dedicated to continuously enhancing our musical offer, ensuring it meets the highest standards. In future years, our Music Development Plan aims to achieve the following:

- Further professional development for teachers to ensure confidence in teaching music within the classroom
- Musical engagement with feeder secondary school to aid in transition
- Provide further opportunities for children to experience live performances
- Seek additional funding from charities/fundraising to allow for more musical opportunities

## Further information (optional)

For further details regarding our music curriculum, please see our website:

<https://www.stjohnsmsn.co.uk/curriculum/music.htm>

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.

