

Music development plan: *St Peter's 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	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Miss Wray
Name of local music hub	Hertfordshire
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	SAPSMA

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

The school long term plans outline what each year group will be covering in music each term throughout the academic year. All pupils, including SEND are included in music lessons and space, planning, adult support and instruments are all utilised to ensure that every pupil can access the music curriculum to the best of their capabilities.

EYFS use music throughout their week. Once pupils have had the autumn term to settle in they have discrete music lessons with our school music specialist. Where possible Miss Wray tries to link theme of these lessons with the topic that the classes are learning about.

KS1 have a weekly half hour music lesson with additional singing assembly. In year 2, from the summer term, the children also have an additional 30mins weekly recorder session. The music sessions rotate between class teacher led and music specialist.

KS2 pupils receive between 50-1hr.15mins of curriculum music with our music specialist teacher plus a weekly singing assembly delivered by a KS2 teacher. Across KS2 pupils learn to play the recorder, a classical stringed instrument and the ukulele. Strings and recorders are delivered by Miss Hayden who is a string specialist. In year 6

keyboards are used in some practical lessons and half a term of SAMBA music is also taught in the summer term. Lessons are linked to curriculum topics where there is a good fit and planning and delivery links to our music skills document. Assembly listening music is selected in line with the Model Music Curriculum guidance to ensure that pupils are being exposed to a wide breadth of music and this is shared on the school website.

School has also bought into a scheme called Drumba, although not a discrete music session, it combines physical activity with drumming.

Miss Wray has links with other music teachers and been well supported by the music hub through their Tea and Symphony scheme which was started under the guise of Rachel Curson.

We use Sing-up for both curriculum lessons, singing assemblies and choirs which is paid for by the HUB. Charanga and Musical Futures are also paid subscription materials which are used across the school.

Part B: Extra-curricular music

In St Peter's we have two peripatetic teachers who offer string lessons for pupils on a 1:1 or 2:1 basis. The instrumental lessons we offer are violin, viola, cello and double bass. After a year of whole class strings we encourage pupils to continue with lessons from year 4. Pupils who have instrumental lessons in school are also expected to take part in our school string orchestra. Termly concerts are put on and the spring term offers the opportunity for pupils of grade 1 standard or above to take part in a mass orchestra at the Alban Arena.

Some double bass pupils also use the school instruments and have additional informal practice slots to ensure they continue to make progress between lessons.

KS1 has a drop-in choir during Thursday lunchtimes. Pupils are able to choose to come week to week for a short session where songs are learnt by heart and often involve actions.

KS2 has a weekly after school choir. Older children are encouraged to harmonise, read scores in order to extend accuracy and offered solos.

Our orchestra has a nominal £5 fee for the term. The choirs are free to attend. Some pupil premium students have their music tuition paid for by school and school has also loaned instruments to some families who have had particular needs.

Some pupils also have private lessons outside of school and although our orchestra is string instruments only we have been able to encourage pupils who learn another instrument to take part in our mass orchestra event in the spring term. The music hub also offers differing ensembles and we share fliers with families about differing events throughout the academic year.

This year we are trialling the peripatetic lessons to take place in an intervention room instead of a spare classroom. We hope to be able to also store pupils instruments safely in this room on days when pupils have their lessons/ orchestra.

Part C: Musical experiences

Pupils learning recorder in yr3 and strings in yr4 showcase their learning in two daytime concerts, one in the autumn term and one in the spring term. This is organised so that yr3 pupils and their parents can see the progression that they will make as they move onto a string instrument at the end of yr3.

Each class has the opportunity to show a class assembly and although this is not exclusively a musical performance most classes include a song/ instrumental performance within their assembly.

Yr5 pupils are offered the chance to take part in the SAPSMA Christmas service at St Albans Cathedral where they perform with approx 800 children from 20 other local schools.

EYFS and Year 1 perform a Christmas nativity, year 3 &4 perform a show in the spring term and yr5 &6 perform a show in the summer term.

KS2 Choir and Orchestra have evening concerts at school in the autumn and summer term and the chance to perform at the Alban Arena in the spring term. The orchestra perform across all 3 nights. The KS2 choir attend 2 mass rehearsals at another local school and then perform on one night with other schools amounting to around 250 children on stage performing with a live band. These are all free for pupils to take part in, the Alban Arena sells tickets to parents and at school an opportunity to make a voluntary donation but there is no expectation for parents to pay to watch their child perform.

We also invite former pupils in to perform to encourage our yr4 pupils to take up an instrument. Seeing their older peers perform to/along side them has been inspiring.

The school choir also applies for the biannual Hertfordshire schools gala which performs at the Royal Albert Hall. This is an excellent opportunity for our choir to perform and see some other great musical acts although we are currently awaiting to see if we have got offered a space for the 2025 performance.

Both our peripatetic teachers our professional musicians and have performed live to pupils in various class lessons.

Each year in the summer term pupils are invited to audition for St Peter's Got Talent, although this is not an exclusive music activity a lot of the children use it to showcase their musical talents in front of the whole school.

In the future

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

As the school continues to expand the timetabling of music delivery will continue to be under review. This may result in a continuation of EYFS and KS1 sharing the specialist teacher time throughout the year or this may expand to include each class throughout the year.

This is the first term at introducing Drumba so encouraging this to be a well established and used resource across the keystages is paramount.

It would be nice to trial some sort of performance with our children having peripatetic lessons where they could have an opportunity to perform on an individual basis.

We have been looking for some opportunity to take pupils to hear and see some live music locally. At this stage we are looking at the potential for a trip for the yr4's but we are very early stages of planning.

The Music Hub lead left midway through last academic year, it would be advantageous to ensure that new links are formed as the support they have given school in the past has been excellent.

We would like to form links with our wider community in order to reach out and find new performance opportunities, whether this is in an old people's home or in our local shopping centre.

Further information

We are currently looking at creative ways of generating some money for additional music resources. Selling disused instruments, asking for donations at concerts and looking into the possibility of applying for music grants.