

Music Development Plan Summary: St. Benedict's Catholic Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Rachael Chadwick
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Rachael Chadwick
Name of local music hub	Sefton Sky Hub
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 and how much time is spent teaching music.

We have a music curriculum which develops knowledge and skills from Nursery to Year 6. Part of the curriculum includes the use of Charanga (a high-quality music scheme of work) taught by class teachers. This is enhanced by specialist music tuition from peripatetic teachers:

- Nursery, Reception , Y1 & Y2 pupils have specialist vocal and percussion tuition – weekly lessons for three half terms per year
- Year 3 pupils have specialist recorder tuition – weekly lessons all year
- Year 4 pupils have specialist brass tuition – weekly lessons all year
- Year 5 pupils can opt to continue brass tuition in class time – weekly lessons all year
- Y4-Y6 pupils can also opt to join the extra-curricular brass music hub – weekly lessons after school all year

All children are included in music lessons. Provision is adapted where necessary for children with SEND. All lessons and instrument loan are free of charge for all pupils. This is paid for through a Service Level Agreement between school and Sefton Music Service.

We work closely with Sefton Sky Music Hub to ensure high quality provision for music. An overview of our music curriculum can be found on our school website:

<https://stbenedictsprimary.co.uk/music-curriculum/>

In addition to curriculum music, teachers use songs to enhance learning in other subjects. They also rehearse and perform poetry and songs for a variety of school events (see section C).

The Model Music Curriculum

This non-statutory guidance has informed our decision making for music provision in our school. The guidance states: *'The MMC takes as its starting point the ambition that every young person should be able to experience music and to make progress. This includes singing, as well as having the opportunity to learn an instrument through whole-class ensemble and small-group teaching at Key Stage 2.'*

This statement forms the basis of our provision for music for our pupils.

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.

EXTRA CURRICULAR MUSIC

Choir

All children in Years 3-6 are invited to join our school choir. Our choir meets weekly on a Thursday after school and is always well attended. The club is free of charge for all pupils. In this extra- curricular club, children benefit from:

- Improving singing skills
- A release of emotions
- A boost in self confidence, mood and overall well-being
- Expanding social circles
- Being creative
- Developing teamwork skills
- Having fun
- Gaining credits towards Children's University awards

Our school choir performs at many school, parish and community events throughout the year (see part C).

South Sefton Brass Music Hub

We work closely with Sefton Music Service and are the host school for the South Sefton Music Hub. This is an extension to the brass tuition our children receive in school. All children in Y4-Y6 are invited to attend on a Monday after school. This invitation is extended to other primary schools in South Sefton and we welcome pupils from a range of schools.

The children are taught by professional brass musicians and are given opportunities to perform. They are given instruments loaned from Sefton Music Service. Instruments and tuition are provided free of charge.

In the brass ensemble, children benefit from:

- Expert musical tuition
- Developing the skill of playing an instrument
- Learning musical notation and terminology
- Developing team work skills
- Meeting young musicians from other schools
- A boost in self confidence, mood and overall well-being

The South Sefton Brass Ensemble performs once a term at a variety of venues.

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.

MUSICAL EXPERIENCES

We provide a range of opportunities for our pupils to attend or participate in musical events. These included:

Whole School Celebrations

We regularly have occasions to gather as a school/parish community such as Harvest Festival, Welcome Assembly, Carol Service, Easter Service, Leavers' Mass. These celebrations always include singing – solos, small groups, classes and whole school. *(whole school, free for everyone)*

Christmas Plays

Every child in Nursery-Y5 performs in a class Christmas play every year, this develops their acting, singing and performance skills year on year. *(whole school, free for everyone)*

Singing Assemblies

We regularly gather as a school community to enjoy singing together. *(whole school, free for everyone)*

Theatre Trips

Every child in our school goes to the theatre every year. These trips are partly funded through fundraising by our PFSA. Free places are provided for some children when needed. *(whole school, subsidised)*

Choir Performances

We link with events happening in our region; our school choir has performed at a variety of venues including St. George's Hall, Liverpool Cathedral, The Tung Auditorium, Liverpool Arena, Manchester Arena, Bootle Town Hall, Liverpool Parish Church. We also perform in our local community – local Christmas light switch on, over 80s Christmas party, our local nursing home. *(Y3-6, free for everyone)*

Music Concerts

Every summer, we hold our Summer Music Concerts in school. Families are invited to come to school to see what the children have been learning in their music lessons. These performances include singing (Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2); recorders (Year 3) and brass (Years 4 and 5). *(N-Y5, free for everyone)*

St. Benedict's Got Talent

Our end of year talent show provides an opportunity for children to showcase their talents. Auditions for the final are open to all children from Nursery to Y6. *(whole school, free for everyone)*

Brass Ensemble Concerts

Children who attend the South Sefton Brass Ensemble perform once a term in a range of venues throughout Sefton. Their families are invited to attend these concerts. As well as performing, the children have the opportunity to watch the senior brass ensembles to inspire them to continue playing their instruments. *(Y4-6, free for everyone)*

Performance Artists

We invite performance artists into school. They perform and run workshops for our children to learn new songs in a range of genres. *(whole school, free for everyone)*

In the future

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

- We will build on the foundations of the South Sefton Brass Hub hosted by our school. This was initiated in April 2024. This year (2024-2025), we will continue

to work with Sefton Music Service to increase participation of children in our school and other schools in South Sefton.

- We will enhance our music provision using guidance from the 'National Plan for Music Education.' Our Music lead will attend training on this document provided by the National College and will work with the Senior Leadership Team to choose recommendations to implement in school. Training and consultation in Autumn 2024 and Spring 2025; implementation in Summer 2025.
- We will use the music recommended for each year group in the Model Music Curriculum to increase the range of musical genres our children experience. Links to resources to be created by our music lead in Autumn 2024; whole school implementation in Spring 2025.

Further information (optional)

We work closely with Sefton Music Service: <https://www.seftonmusicservice.com/>

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.

Government Guidance – A National Plan for Music Education:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-power-of-music-to-change-lives-a-national-plan-for-music-education>

Government Guidance – The Model Music Curriculum:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/teaching-music-in-schools>