

# St. John the Baptist Primary School music development plan summary:

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	Autumn 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	Autumn 2026
Name of the school music lead	Lorraine Best
Name of local music hub	Hampshire Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady Music School

This is a summary of how St. John the Baptist Primary School delivers an ambitious and exciting music education to all our pupils across the three areas of high-quality music education as identified in the National Plan for Music Education (June 2022) and informed by the guidelines of the Model Music Curriculum (2021). It outlines our provision for curriculum music, extra-curricular provision and musical experiences as well as what developments we are planning in future years. This information is to help families understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

### Part A: Curriculum music

This section outlines what we teach in lesson time and how much time is spent teaching music.

At St John the Baptist, every child receives 1 hour of in class music teaching per week which is delivered by class teachers. Every child has an opportunity to play a variety of tuned and untuned instruments. We have class sets of glockenspiels, recorders and ukuleles and a range of percussion instruments which students will use throughout their time with us.

Our music curriculum follows the Charanga Musical School progression and each half-term, students use a Charanga Creative Music Scheme unit to explore key music skills and musical dimensions. This is a spiral curriculum whereby previous skills and knowledge are returned to and built upon. Units have been carefully selected to ensure that students have a solid understanding of the foundational elements of music as well as key music skills. The 7 key elements covered in our curriculum map are: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture and structure. The musical skills taught are:

singing, playing instruments, listening and responding, composing and creating, musical appreciation, musicianship (performing), notation and music technology.

Each unit typically includes: listening and analysing music, music theory, composition, practical application of skills (on a variety of instruments) and a performance and evaluation. Students will work individually, in pairs and in groups.

All students are given further opportunities to gain confidence and skills in singing through daily collective worship and special events in the school's church calendar. Whole school collective singing is coordinated and delivered by the music lead. During Harvest, Christmas and Easter, children participate in special services in which there are typically 3 songs sung as a whole school. These songs can include parts and timed actions.

All children will have equal access to music lessons and to achieve their full potential regardless of their ability. Music allows children to experience success at many levels, to express themselves musically, to enjoy opportunities for reflection and to respond to a range of musical activities in ways that take learning beyond the classroom. Children enjoy positive experiences of performing in a group and have extra curricular opportunities to extend their interests. Music lessons are clearly differentiated where necessary with individual parts being adapted to meet an individual's ability and needs, allowing every child to access music at their level.

## **Part B: Extra-curricular music**

At St. John the Baptist, we offer opportunities to sing and play music outside of curriculum lesson time. We have partnered with Rock Steady Music School to facilitate peripatetic music teaching for several years and this is a popular opportunity from Year 1-6. They currently offer music tuition in the following instruments: vocals, bass guitar, electric guitar, keyboards and drums. Students who sign-up to this service are placed in their own rock band and learn to play songs together. All instruments are provided for each session by Rock Steady. Bands have weekly 30-minute rehearsals with a Rock Steady music specialist in our dedicated music room. Each term, all rock bands perform for both their families and the school community. We currently support two pupil premium places.

We have an active choir which all students in Years 3-6 are able to join free of charge. This choir regularly performs in the community. In the past, it has performed during special school church services, visited and performed in rest homes and at Christmas markets. The choir currently rehearses on Thursday lunchtimes in our music room.

During the Autumn term, we run a belleplates group. This is an opportunity for children to play an additional instrument free of charge and perform at the school's carol service at St. John the Baptist Church in Shedfield.

In addition to these regular clubs, the school has also offered orchestra, recorder, and glockenspiel groups and KS1 choirs during recent years. This is dependent on the interests of the pupils.

Hampshire Music Service also provides peripatetic teaching from specialist teachers for a range of instruments, including brass, woodwind, string. These lessons vary in group size from 1-1 to small group and are offered for a charge.

## **Part C: Musical experiences**

This section is about other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

All children who receive tuition from Rock Steady Music will perform as part of a concert at the end of every term. While this is hugely beneficial for the performers, by the end of the school year every child in the school will also have listened to the live music that they provide. We have also invited extended family and members of the community to perform for us to start collective worship. In January, the PAFS committee funded a professional pantomime company to come in.

Throughout the year, there are three productions. Year R-2 perform a Nativity, Year 3-4 take part in a performance at Easter and Year 5-6 put on a musical in the summer. This means that every child has the opportunity to be involved in a production (backstage, dancer, technical support or operator, actor, singing chorus) every year at our school. Each production is performed 3 times - once to pupils and twice to family.

For many students and staff the carol service is the highlight of the music calendar. This is well attended by family and the local community. Carols are rehearsed by all pupils during advent and all KS2 are able to participate through involvement in extra curricular clubs such as choir, belle plates as well as cross curricular activities in lessons e.g. singing a french carol.

Year 6 visit a theatre to watch a professional performance of the musical they will be performing that year and are also invited to a special leavers' service at Portsmouth Cathedral. They will rehearse specific hymns in school which are then sung alongside other schools during the event.

Year 5 & 6 have also attended music concerts at Swanmore College (our feeder school). This is performed by students and is very inspiring for our pupils.

## In the future

- To continue strengthening our music provision we would like to work with Hampshire Music Service further to provide an opportunity for students to continue learning the more classical instruments on which they learn introductory skills.
- To offer Year 1 and 2 the opportunity to sing in a choir, just like their older peers.
- To seek affordable local musical experiences for our children. This could be festivals to participate in or high quality performances to experience.

## Further information



We are proud to be a Music Mark awarded school. This award recognises our commitment to high quality music teaching for all pupils and our focus to make continued improvements.