Music development plan summary:
St Ann's Church of England Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-27
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Kayleigh Thomson
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Laura Rynn
Name of local music hub	St Helens
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Vocal Skills – Debbie Devaney Peripatetic Music Tuition – Schools Music Service (Curly Music) Rock Steady - Ryan Jackson

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.

When designing our Music curriculum, leaders carefully reviewed the National Curriculum and the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021). We made deliberate decisions about the most valuable content to teach, ensuring the sequencing of knowledge and skills builds progressively. This approach guarantees that pupils develop their musical understanding step-by-step, working towards clearly defined end points.

Our curriculum is underpinned by collaboration with expert consultants from the local Music Hub, who helped create thoughtfully planned units of work. The content is broad and ambitious, with high expectations for subject-specific knowledge, skill development, and vocabulary acquisition. We have constructed the curriculum to provide all pupils with rich cultural capital.

Leaders and teachers maintain high ambitions for every child, including our most vulnerable pupils and those with SEND. We adapt our curriculum to meet diverse needs, ensuring all children develop the knowledge, skills, and abilities to apply their learning with increasing fluency and independence. This is supported by our 'keep up, not catch up' pedagogical approach, which incorporates adaptive teaching, carefully planned scaffolding, expert modelling, timely feedback, pre-teach opportunities, and immediate intervention where necessary.

All year groups receive one hour of Music education weekly, delivered throughout the year by a specialist from the local Music Hub. In Early Years, discrete Music lessons are tailored to age and stage, complemented by daily singing opportunities and integration within continuous provision. Throughout whole-class lessons, children engage in singing and playing tuned and untuned percussion instruments. From Year 3, children begin learning the recorder, and in Year 4, they start brass lessons.

This curriculum design aligns with OFSTED's research findings, which emphasise the importance of a well-sequenced, ambitious curriculum that balances breadth with depth, enabling pupils to build procedural knowledge and musical skills progressively (OFSTED Research Review Series: Music – Striking the Right Note).

For more information, please visit:

https://www.rainhillstanns.co.uk/page/?title=Curriculum+Long+Term+Plans&pid=134
http://three-saints.org.uk/pages/lunar/music.htm

St Ann's Curriculum Long Term Plans

Three Saints Academy Trust Lunar Curriculum – Music

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.

In addition to our carefully planned Music curriculum, children have access to a range of enriching musical opportunities, including:

- The chance to join our KS2 choir. Rehearsals take place every Monday evening after school, led by our choir director, a qualified vocal teacher.
- A weekly 20-minute singing practice for Years 1 to 6, often conducted by the church choir director.

- Opportunities for private one-to-one or small group tuition in a variety of musical instruments. Children can borrow instruments through St Helens Music Hub or the Schools Music Service. Lessons for disadvantaged pupils may be subsidised or provided free of charge using Pupil Premium funding.
- Opportunity to learn to play a musical instrument through membership of a rock band.
- Signposting to ensembles organised by St Helens Music Hub, held at St Helens Town Hall. Interested families can find the application form here: https://sthelens.gov.uk/article/2919/Join-a-band-choir-or-ensemble

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.

At St Ann's, our music provision is enriched through a variety of engaging and culturally enriching experiences designed to nurture every child's musical development and appreciation:

Liverpool Philharmonic Visits: Year 2 children (60 pupils) attend a live world-class orchestral performance at the Liverpool Philharmonic. Parents and carers are kindly invited to make a voluntary donation to support the cost of these visits.

Shakespeare North Playhouse Performances: As part of our Cultural & Curriculum offer, every Year 3 cohort (around 60 children) attends an annual theatrical performance. Recent shows include Wind in the Willows and Alice in Wonderland. Voluntary donations from parents and carers help fund these enriching visits.

Annual Summer Music Concerts: These are a vibrant celebration where all children proudly showcase their musical skills, knowledge, and learning from the year. Through year group concerts, families and friends enjoy performances that highlight the progress and joy of music education at St Ann's, fostering community and confidence.

St Ann's Has Got Talent: This annual event encourages children learning to sing or play an instrument to audition and showcase their talents. Typically involving around 80 children, participants perform on a local stage to a ticketed audience. Entry is free, with voluntary donations requested for audience tickets.

Year 6 Musical Production: Our Year 6 children (approximately 60 pupils) perform a musical production in our school hall for a ticketed audience. Participation is free, with voluntary donations requested for tickets.

Early Years and KS1 Nativity: Two nativity performances involving around 180 children celebrate the Christmas story through song. Participation is free, with voluntary donations requested for tickets.

Daily Worship Singing: Every day, all children (around 360) participate in singing hymns as a form of praise and thanksgiving to God.

Early Years Song Fest: Our Early Years children (around 60) take part in an annual singing event at the Town Hall, organised by our local Music Hub. Parents and carers are invited to make voluntary donations to support this experience.

Y2–Y6 Music Roadshow: Children wishing to learn to play a musical instrument, along with their parent, are invited to an after-school event to find out about the Schools Music Service. This event introduces children to the opportunity of learning a musical instrument through one-to-one or small group tuition. Tuition costs are usually funded by parents, with subsidies or free places available for disadvantaged pupils.

Annual Christmas Sing-a-Long: All children in Years 1 to 6 (around 360) enjoy a live Christmas sing-a-long performed by tutors from St Helens Music Hub. This event is fully funded by the school and free for all children.

Choir Performances: Our choir (approximately 40 children) participates in numerous free performances throughout the year, including:

- Rainhill Christmas Lights Switch-On
- Christmas Carol Concert at St Ann's Church
- Christmas Carol Concert at Liverpool Anglican Cathedral
- Amberley Court Care Home visits
- St Ann's Has Got Talent at local Village Hall
- SOAR Programme ceremony at St Ann's Church
- St Helens Music Hub Event – Lost in Music

While parents are usually asked for voluntary donations to support these musical experiences, funding support is available in specific circumstances, such as eligibility for pupil premium.

In the future

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

Plans for 2026-27

- Continue to explore the benefits of getting involved with the Liverpool Cathedral Schools Singing Programme
- Establish a band or orchestra to harness the growing number of children learning musical instruments.
- Organise a Music Appreciation Day to celebrate music from diverse cultures, time periods, and around the world.
- Arrange for various year groups to attend the local secondary school's termly musical showcases, with opportunities for our choir to perform.

- Increase regular performance opportunities for children learning instruments by featuring them in worship services.
- Develop a register of pupils with music qualifications to tailor Music lessons precisely to their needs.

Further information (optional)

Parents/ carers may find the following links useful:

The Department for Education Music Guide
https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/music-education-information-for-parents-and-young-people

St Helens Music Service https://sthelens.gov.uk/music

Schools Music Service https://www.schoolsmusicservice.co.uk/

Rock Steady https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/

Liverpool Cathedral, The Schools Singing Programme
https://liverpoolcathedral.org.uk/cathedral-music/the-schools-singing-programme/