

Music development plan summary: St Anthony's Catholic Primary School 2025-2026



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Shannon Kelly
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Elaine Harrold
Name of local music hub	Hertfordshire Music Service
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, how much time is spent teaching music and any music qualifications or awards that pupils can achieve.

At St Anthony's School Music is an integral part of our school curriculum. We are committed to deliver a rich, engaging and creative curriculum that inspires a love of learning. As part of this commitment we use KAPOW Music, an innovative and comprehensive music program designed especially for primary schools. KAPOW Music provides an exciting and progressive curriculum that nurtures musical skills, creativity and confidence in children of all ages and abilities.

Our curriculum aligns with the requirements set forth in the model music curriculum, which was published in March 2021. Our school's music provision for this academic year ensures all children are provided with a rich music experience, throughout Key

Stage One and Two each child has a timetabled music lesson for a dedicated hour, on a half termly basis.

Our local music hub, Hertfordshire Music Service supports our music curriculum, as all children in Year 4 are taught to play the ukulele by a specialised teacher, this is free for all children. This is a great musical experience for all children, including those that require additional support. This is funded from our school budget, as we feel it is vital for children's musical development.

Our Link Governor is a retired music teacher, who works closely with the children. She monitors the Music curriculum by meeting termly with the Music co-Ordinator. She reports her findings back to the Governor Body. Most recently she supported the Year 5 choir at the Royal Albert Hall Music Gala and played the piano at Holy Rood Church during the performance of our choirs Christmas carol service.

The children have many opportunities to sing, during our daily class worship, children will have the opportunity to sing hymns together.

To foster inclusivity and access for all pupils, our music curriculum encompasses provisions for disabled pupils and those with special educational needs (SEND). We actively seek to create an accommodating and supportive environment for all learners, adhering to the guidelines outlined in the school information guidance on both the curriculum and SEND. We dedicate our efforts to ensure that pupils' varied learning needs are recognised and supported, creating a robust scaffold for their musical development.

We work closely with Electric Umbrella Company (a local music charity) provided singing workshops with children in Year One and Year Four. In November 2025, they held a whole school assembly, where they emphasise that music is for all to enjoy. Many choir children had the opportunity to perform with them.

Our music programme ensures that every pupil is provided with the opportunity to learn to sing or play an instrument during lesson time, maintaining our commitment to a rich and varied musical experience. We emphasise whole-class ensemble teaching across various year groups, which promotes collaboration and collective learning. In particular, all children in Years 2 and 3 are introduced to the glockenspiel, allowing them to develop their foundational skills in music. As they progress into Years 4 pupils receive instruction in the ukulele, further enriching their musical capabilities and fostering an appreciation for diverse musical genres. In Year 3 the children are learning how to play the recorder.

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.

At St Anthony's School, we are committed to delivering a rich and inclusive music education that goes beyond the traditional classroom setting. To support this vision, we provide music tuition opportunities outside the core curriculum. Pupils can participate in individual, small-group, or larger ensemble sessions for guitar.

These additional music lessons outside of curriculum time, allow students to pursue their unique musical interests and aspirations. We proudly offer lessons in a wide range of instruments, these include the ukulele and glockenspiel, ensuring that every pupil can explore and nurture their musical potential.

Outside of lesson time, we provide a wide range of ensemble opportunities that allow pupils to engage in collaborative music-making. Our school choir plays a dynamic role in the music curriculum, welcoming pupils from Year Five and Six to join in song. The choir rehearses weekly. Pupils also have many chances to perform, showcasing their vocal and instrumental skills during events such as assemblies, Masses, liturgies, the Nativity plays, Carol Services and Year 5 and 6 summer performance.

We also recognise the importance of partnerships in strengthening our music provision. Our collaboration with Hertfordshire Music Service brings additional resources, specialist knowledge, and a range of performance opportunities. These partnerships enhance our curriculum and give pupils greater access to the wider musical community.

Moreover, we recognise the importance of partnerships in enhancing our music programmes. We have established relationships with Hertfordshire Music Service, that offer additional resources, expertise, and performance opportunities. These collaborations not only enrich our music curriculum but also provide our pupils with greater exposure to the wider music community.

In conclusion, our Music Development Plan is designed to provide a holistic approach to music education, ensuring that pupils have ample opportunities for growth and development outside of the traditional classroom setting. Through a combination of diverse tuition options, ensemble participation, pathways for progression, and supportive partnerships, we are dedicated to fostering a lifelong love for music within our school community.

To conclude, our Music Development Plan embraces a well-rounded approach to music education, ensuring pupils benefit from opportunities that extend beyond the classroom. Through diverse tuition options, ensemble participation, clear progression pathways, and strong external partnerships, we are committed to inspiring a lifelong passion for music within our school.

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 children's time at St Anthony's, the children have a range of musical experiences. All children in the EYFS and KS1 perform the Nativity story to the whole school and parents/carers. The Mini Vinnies choir performed Christmas carols at Holy Rood Catholic Church.

In October, all children in the school will perform in their year groups, where they will perform to the local community for the elderly. This meaningful experience enables pupils to build connections with older generations. It leaves a lasting impression on the children.

Children in Year 2 had the opportunity to see a local Christmas pantomime at the Watersmeet Theatre in Rickmansworth.

All Year 5 and 6 children perform in our summer play, which they perform in front of the whole school and parents/carers.

Year 5 choir will perform at the Royal Albert Hall with the Hertfordshire Music Service, this experience celebrates music across generations. The children were able to perform as a group and build on teamwork.

Additionally, the children will regularly have assemblies, where the children are given opportunities to learn different music for example, guitar concert.

All our nativities and summer performances are professionally filmed and sent to parents, this is funded by the school.

In the future

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

In the future, to further our music development we will continue to provide recorder lessons for Year 3 children, the school will provide recorders for all pupils. As we believe all children should have access to musical experiences.

Furthermore, we plan on organising more music trips to concerts outside of school. The aim of these trips is to further children's musical knowledge and experience live music performances.

We are planning to develop our links with the Westfield School and other local schools to further develop our pupils' musical experiences and opportunities to access pathways for continued development.

Further information (optional)

For further information, please find the link below to view our local music hub, 'The Hertfordshire Music Service'.

<https://www.hertsmusicservice.org.uk/schools-area/what-the-music-service-offers-to-schools.aspx>