

Music Development Plan Summary
St Mary's Catholic Primary – 2025-2026

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	July 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Sarah Hayes
Name of the school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
name of other music education organisations if partnership in place	Our Lady of Lourdes Music Service

This is a summary of how our school delivers music education to all our pupils across three areas – curriculum music, extra-curricular music and musical events and performances – as well as 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.

Curriculum Music

This section 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.

- The Our Lady of Lourdes (OLOL) Music service provide and teach our music curriculum from Foundation 2 (F2) through to Y6 which is informed by the [model music curriculum](#) (March 2021). In Foundation 1 (F1), our music coordinator teaches our music curriculum which is informed by Musical Development Matters in the Early Years and has been specifically designed to lay the foundations for the teaching of music in the subsequent year groups. In addition, all year groups have paired class singing lessons which are provided by an independent music specialist.

- Children in all year groups have opportunities to sing and play an instrument during lesson times on a weekly basis.

In F1, our music coordinator teaches music during a 15-minute weekly session. They also sing songs and rhymes on a daily basis and have an 'Interactive Music' intervention for our very youngest children and for children who need targeted support. In addition, F1 and F2 have a 20 minute weekly paired singing session led by our music coordinator.

In F2 and KS1, our music specialists from the OLOL music service teach music during a 30-minute weekly session. KS1 also have a fortnightly 30-minute singing session led by our OLOL music service.

In KS2, our music specialists from the OLOL music service teach music during a 1-hour weekly session. In addition, they also have a fortnightly 30-minute singing session led by our OLOL music service.

All children have the opportunity to sing and play an instrument through whole class ensemble teaching.

In the Early Years children begin by exploring a wide range of percussion instruments, including djembes.

Building on from this, KS1 are then introduced to glockenspiels, followed by the introduction of recorders and ukuleles in Lower KS2 and boom whackers, guitars, toots, trumpets and flutes in Upper KS2.

We work hard at increasing access for disabled pupils, supporting pupils with special educational needs (SEND) and with English as an Addition Language (EAL). We think carefully about the strategies we can use to scaffold learning to support learners with additional needs and have devised a summary of the strategies we can utilise as required (in our documents - Scaffolding SEND Support and Music: Scaffolding EAL Support).

- At St Mary's, we work in partnership with the OLOL Music Service, which is part of our Academy Trust. They teach our curriculum music, thus ensuring progression and continuity across the school. We also work with an OLOL music teacher who excels at implementing a high-quality music curriculum based specifically on singing – she teaches our choir and in addition does KS1 and KS2 singing.

Extra-curricular music

This section is about opportunities at St Mary's 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 Mary's we provide instrumental lessons for Y3 - Y6 children who would like to progress further with a chosen instrument – they can choose from a stringed instrument (guitar, violin or viola), a woodwind instrument (clarinet or flute), a

brass instrument (trumpet) and singing. We offer these lessons at a reduced cost of £35.52 per term for small group tuition. Our children work towards Grade 1 standard but can progress further if they are excelling.

- We have a number of musical groups that children can be involved in:

All children in Foundation, KS1 and KS2 take part in the Whole School Singing Assemblies which takes place regularly and are led by our OLOL singing teacher.

In KS1, we have 'Playground Buddies' from Y5 who support our younger children with playing games at break times. This role includes teaching and supporting children with 'Singing Playground' games – the buddies are supported by our music coordinator who teaches and offers new singing game ideas.

In KS2 we have a lunchtime choir which meets on a weekly basis to sing a wide range of songs, including songs which they then lead in assembly. This ensemble is run by our OLOL music teacher and supported by a musically experienced Teaching Assistant. These extra-curricular activities are open to all KS2 children who wish to participate and are free.

- We have an area in school, called the 'Rainbow Room' where children can rehearse or practice individually or in groups if requested. The area has a keyboard, as well access to a wide range of instruments.

Musical events and performances

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.

Planned musical experiences:

- OLOL Music Festival – our school choir and others from across the Trust join together to perform as individual choirs and as a collaborative group. This event is free.
- Nottingham Music Hub Concerts – our school choir joins schools from across the city to perform to an audience in a variety of Nottingham City venues.
- Performance by the Trinity School Ensemble – the children listen to the performance as an audience. Whole School Event.
- Termly Music Assembly – each class performs a vocal or instrumental piece, showcasing part of their learning from the past term.
- St Mary's Church Mass at school or at the church – Individual classes, specific Key Stages or whole school. Children sing taught songs as part of the Mass.
- Foundation Christmas Sing, KS1 Christmas Nativity and KS2 Christmas Carol concert – performed to an audience of parents and carers. Performances include vocal and instrumental elements, as well as drama and dancing.

- Singing in the community – performing to residents at the local care home/performing outside ASDA.
- The Great Orchestra Experiment – Y4 children take part in this annual event. Before the event, the children learn a piece of music in class and are visited by a musician from the orchestra. At the event, the children take part in playing and singing in a collaborative performance and also listen to the orchestra play. There is a nominal charge for this event, with a subsidised rate of...for children who are eligible for pupil premium.
- Y3 and Y4 Easter Show – performed to an audience of parents and carers. Performances include vocal and instrumental elements, as well as drama and dancing.
- Music Specialist Assemblies – Our music specialists each take to the stage at different times of the year and perform pieces of music for the children to listen to as an audience. These are whole school events.
- Cultural Diversity Day
 - our parents can offer to perform as a group/individually to perform music intrinsic to their culture. Last year parents from or Eritrean community gave us a vocal performance. This is a whole school event.
 - Each class joins together and shares an activity they have been engaged in that day, including vocal and instrumental performances.

This is a whole school event. Performed to an audience of parent's, carers and peers.
- Y5 and 6 End of Year Show - performed to an audience of parents and carers. Performances include vocal and instrumental elements, as well as drama and dancing.

In the future

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

- Assess and reflect on the success of the instrumental tuition, including pupil voice – Early Pentecost Term 2026
- Broaden the range of music experienced by the children
 - reach out to parents and carers for ideas linked to musicians/composers who reflect the music linked to their family's cultural identity - Pentecost Term 2026
 - introduce a Musician/Composer of the half term – Advent Term 2025
 - encourage parents from a range of different cultures to perform at our Cultural Diversity Day – Pentecost Term 2026
 - Pupil Voice to find out about the music they enjoyed listening to in the Academic Year 2025-26 – Pentecost Term 2026

- Train our 'playground buddies' to use 'singing playground' songs with the younger children at break times – Advent 2025
- Introduce to and support our music staff with the EAL and SEND scaffolding support strategies crib sheets, to ensure that provision for our most vulnerable is of high quality
- Continue to increase the number of opportunities to listen to live performances
 - Invite an ensemble from one of the Secondary Schools in our Trust to perform in an assembly – Pentecost 2026

Links to our local music hub partners, other local music education organisations and contacts

- The Department for Education offers a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music, and where they can go to for support beyond the school
- Our Lady of Lourdes Music Service: ololmusic.co.uk
- The Nottingham Music Hub website provides information on how parents and young people can get involved in music in Nottingham City: <https://www.nottinghammusichub.org.uk/>
- The Arts Council offers information relating to all local music hubs: [music hub](#)