

# Music development plan summary: St Francis

## Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	N. Ellis
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	S. Peters
Name of local music hub	Walsall Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	N/A

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 Francis Catholic Primary School, we strive to give every child the opportunity to experience the transformative power of music and the positive impact it can have on their lives. Through singing, playing instruments, performing, and composing, pupils engage in enjoyable, creative, and rewarding learning experiences. We believe that music not only enriches the curriculum in its own right, but also supports and enhances learning across many other areas of school life.

In Nursery, we use the Development Matters framework as the foundation for our music learning. Music is an integral part of the Nursery curriculum, and children are encouraged to develop their confidence and creativity through regular singing, exploring instruments, listening to music, and engaging in musical play and activities. From Reception-Year 6, we follow the 'Kapow' Scheme of Work for Music. Curriculum

music lessons are informed by the Model Music Curriculum (non-statutory guidance for music teaching) and provide pupils with opportunities to:

- Listen to and evaluate music from diverse time periods and cultures.
- Learn how to create and control sound using their voices, as well as tuned and untuned instruments.
- Understand how music is communicated through various notation systems.
- Improvise and compose music.
- Perform musically in front of audiences.

<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Lesson opportunities to sing and play instruments</b>	<b>Lesson performance opportunities</b>
Autumn 1: Keeping the pulse	Singing a sentence, keeping a steady pulse.  Keeping the pulse of the music and playing sound patterns using body percussion and untuned instruments.	Performing to the class in pairs to show pulse and rhythm.
Autumn 2: Tempo	Singing a short chant and song.  Keeping the beat to a chant and song, using instruments	Performing to the class in pairs, demonstrating a song at varying speeds.
Spring 1: Dynamics	Using untuned percussion instruments to create seaside sounds.	Performing in pairs for the class, demonstrating seaside sounds and their corresponding symbols.
Spring 2: Sound patterns	Practising different sound patterns using instruments.	Using instruments to tell the story of the 'Three little pigs' to the class.
Summer 1: Pitch	Using tuned percussion instruments to play a simple tune.	Performing superhero theme tunes as a group to the class.
Summer 2: Musical symbols	Using tuned percussion and clapping to play different symbols to represent the sea.	Performing under the sea sounds as a group to the class.

<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Lesson opportunities to sing and play instruments</b>	<b>Lesson performance opportunities</b>
Autumn 1: Call and response	Using body percussion and voices to share call and response patterns.	Performing different call and response patterns in groups to the class.

Autumn 2: Instruments	Working in groups to use instruments and create music that matches a storyboard.	Working as a group to perform music to match the story of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'.
Spring 1: Singing	Learning to sing three folk songs and using voices and body percussion.	Performing a folk song and composition as a group.
Spring 2: Contrasting dynamics	Using vocal sounds and instruments to create space soundscapes.	Performing a space soundscape and sharing space symbols as a group.
Summer 1: Structure	Using instruments to perform different sound patterns.	Performing sound patterns as a group using instruments.
Summer 2	Using tuned percussion instruments, children read from a score and perform a song.	Performing 'Once a man fell in a well' as a class using voices and instruments.

<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Lesson opportunities to sing and play instruments</b>	<b>Lesson performance opportunities</b>
Autumn 1: Ballads	Singing in time and in tune with a song and incorporating actions.	Performing their own ballad in groups and incorporating actions.
Autumn 2: Creating compositions for an animation	Playing melodies and rhythms on tuned instruments which represent a section of animation.	Performing a group composition to represent an animation.
Spring 1: Developing singing technique	Practising different warm ups and learning a song using a variety of different pitches.	Performing a song about the Vikings with associated actions.
Spring 2: Pentatonic melodies and composition	Practising playing a pentatonic melody.	Performing a piece of music to represent the Chinese new year.
Summer 1: Jazz	Experimenting with scat singing and syn-copated rhythms.	Performing a jazz version of a nursery rhyme.
Summer 2: Indian music	Practising a traditional Indian song.	Performing the song 'Anile Vaa'.

<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Lesson opportunities to sing and play instruments</b>	<b>Lesson performance opportunities</b>
Autumn 1: Body and tuned percussion	Experimenting with combining body percussion and tuned percussion instruments to create rhythms of the rainforest.	Performing group rainforest compositions to the class.
Autumn 2: Rock and Roll	Learning a walking bass line on instruments.	Performing a Rock and Roll song as a class using their voices and instruments.
Spring 1: Changes in pitch, tempo and dynamics	Creating and practising vocal and percussive ostinatos.	Performing different ostinatos to represent a river in groups.
Spring 2: Haiku, music and performance	Creating music to compliment a Haiku, using voices and instruments.	Performing music outside to celebrate Hanami.
Summer 1: South America	Practising a piece of music with four layers.	Performing a samba piece as a class.
Summer 2: Romans	Learning to sing a song with a variety of pitches.	Performing 'The Road building song' as a class.

<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Lesson opportunities to sing and play instruments</b>	<b>Lesson performance opportunities</b>
Autumn 1: Composition notation	Creating and practising a piece of music using graphic notation.	Performing a composition to represent a pharaoh as a group.
Autumn 2: Blues	Practising the 12 bar blues chords and accompanying bass line on instruments.	Performing the 12 bar blues and improvisation in pairs.
Spring 1: South and West Africa	Singing unaccompanied and incorporating movement.	Performing 'Shosholozza' as a class.
Spring 2: Composition to represent the festival of colour	Creating a vocal piece to represent a picture.	Performing a vocal class composition.
Summer 1: Looping	N/A - using technology.	Sharing compositions.

Summer 2: Musical theatre	Creating a musical theatre scene.	Performing a scene as a group to create a short class musical.
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>Lesson opportunities to sing and play instruments</b>	<b>Lesson performance opportunities</b>
Autumn 1: Dynamics, pitch and tempo	Creating a group composition.	Performing compositions as a group based on the piece 'Fingal's cave.'
Autumn 2: Songs of WW2	Singing a song with a simple harmony.	Performing the 'White cliffs of Dover' as a class.
Spring 1: Film music	Devising different musical ideas to represent a film.	Performing compositions to represent different scenes within 'Wallace and Gromit.'
Spring 2: Theme and variation	Composing a multi-layered piece of music with voices, bodies and Instruments.	Performing compositions in groups to create a class performance.
Summer 1: Baroque	Playing instruments using graphic and staff notation (and their own notation).	Performing 'Funky fugue' as a class.
Summer 2: Composing and performing a leavers' song	Creating and practising a leavers' song.	Performing leavers' song in assembly.

## 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 Francis Catholic Primary School, music plays an important role in our wider school life and provides children with many opportunities to develop their confidence, creativity, and love of performance. Through our co-curricular music offer, children are encouraged to participate in a range of musical experiences that enrich both their personal development and their understanding of music.

Performance opportunities are embedded throughout the school year. Children in Nursery to Year 2 participate in a Nativity production where they learn and perform a range of songs. Pupils also take part in a Key Stage assembly performance for parents each year, which includes a musical element and provides children with the chance to perform confidently in front of an audience.

Children in Years 3 to 5 participate in an Easter Production, learning and performing songs linked to the story of Easter. In Year 6, pupils prepare and perform a Leavers' Assembly, which includes musical performances to celebrate their time at St Francis Catholic Primary 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.

Children from Reception to Year 6 take part in a weekly Hymn Practice where they develop their singing skills, musical knowledge, and confidence in performing together. Singing is an important part of our Catholic school community, and pupils regularly sing during Mass and other liturgical celebrations throughout the year.

Music supports important sacramental celebrations within our school community. Children in Year 3 prepare songs for their First Holy Communion, while pupils in Year 6 learn and perform music as part of their Confirmation celebrations. These experiences help children develop their musical skills while strengthening their participation in the spiritual life of the school.

Each year, St Francis Catholic Primary School holds a special Carol Concert during the Christmas season. Children learn, practise, and perform a range of traditional and contemporary carols in Church, giving them the opportunity to develop their singing skills and confidence as performers. The concert is a meaningful celebration of Christmas and allows pupils to share the joy of music with families and the wider school community.

Music is also celebrated through our Enrichment Weeks, where all children participate in exciting musical experiences. In previous years, pupils have enjoyed Samba Drumming workshops, exploring rhythm and performance skills. This year, children will take part in a live music assembly, giving them the opportunity to experience and appreciate a real band performance.

## In the future

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

At St Francis Catholic Primary School, we are committed to continuing to develop and strengthen our music provision so that all children have access to high-quality musical experiences. We recognise the important role music plays in supporting creativity, confidence, collaboration, and self-expression, and we are excited about the opportunities we plan to offer in the future.

One of our key aims is to establish a Key Stage 2 choir, providing children with further opportunities to develop their singing skills beyond the music curriculum. Through participating in the choir, pupils will build confidence, improve their vocal abilities, and experience the enjoyment of performing together as part of a wider musical community.

We are also planning to work closely with our local Music Hub to introduce whole-class instrumental lessons for children in Years 1-6. This will allow pupils to develop instrumental skills and broaden their musical experiences through learning to play an instrument as part of a class ensemble. Children will then have opportunities to showcase their learning through performances, further developing their confidence and giving them valuable experience of performing not only through singing, but also through instrumental music.

In addition, we aim to work alongside an external music provider to offer instrumental tuition to our pupils. This will give children the opportunity to learn a musical instrument in greater depth and further nurture their individual musical talents and interests. As our music provision continues to grow, we hope to create even more opportunities for children to perform and celebrate their musical achievements within the school and wider community.