

Sacred Heart R.C. Primary School

Music Development Plan Summary



Music development plan summary: Sacred Heart RC Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024/2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Mrs Victoria Woodward
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Wigan Music Service (Greater Manchester Music Hub)
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 Sacred Heart we recognise that music is a unique yet universal method of communication which enriches children's lives. We are committed to providing a high standard of music education and provision for our pupils, aiming to inspire a love and appreciation of music, develop talent and provide children with a means for personal expression. We recognise that music supports children's social, emotional and mental health as well as improving their confidence and giving them a sense of achievement.

Our curriculum is informed by the Model Music Curriculum and Ofsted research reviews and based on the Sing Up Music scheme. Our curriculum comprises the teaching of the interrelated dimensions of pulse, rhythm, dynamics, structure, texture, harmony, timbre, instrumentation, melody and notation.

Across the curriculum, children explore the different elements of listening, performing and composing. As pupils progress through school, so does their critical engagement with music, building their awareness of musical periods and comparing and contrasting different musical styles.

Our Reception children work with the specialist EYFS music teacher from Wigan Music Service on a six-week CHIME programme to develop their early music, language and literacy skills whilst, in Year 5, specialist teachers from Wigan Music Service deliver our Wider Opportunities Curriculum in which the children learn either the flute or clarinet. This enhances musicianship, ensemble and solo skills and performance techniques.

As their voice is their first instrument, singing is embedded throughout music lessons and supplemented with weekly Key Stage singing practices. Music is taught for an hour in total each week across school.

We deliver a music curriculum that supports and celebrates inclusivity and diversity, reflecting the needs and backgrounds of our children. We encompass the Catholic ethos of Sacred Heart by using music to support worship, reflection, and community celebration.

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.

Our co-curricular music offer supports the DfE plan's goal of providing at least one co-curricular musical activity for every child who wishes to participate. At Sacred Heart, pupils are encouraged to deepen their musical engagement by joining the choir and percussion groups which promote confidence, teamwork, and creativity.

Peripatetic lessons widen access to instrumental learning, and we continue to strengthen our partnership with Wigan Music Service to secure specialist support, instrument provision, and performance opportunities. These activities enrich the school's musical culture and ensure pupils can progress along musical pathways that interest them.

Children can also take part in one-to-one, small-group and large-group music tuition provided by Wigan Music Service. Specialist teachers offer a wide range of instrumental lessons across the woodwind, strings, brass and percussion families in addition to voice lessons. Families are able to sign up each term. The music service also offers workshops during holiday periods which we promote in 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.

In line with the DfE ambition for children to be exposed to live music and a range of meaningful musical encounters, pupils at Sacred Heart take part in a rich variety of musical experiences throughout the year. These include performances in Masses, liturgies, assemblies, school productions, and community events, where music plays a central role in expressing our faith and identity.

In addition, we enhance pupils' cultural capital through workshops, visiting musicians, concerts, and trips, ensuring they understand music as both an artistic and social form. These experiences inspire pupils, promote aspiration, and help them see music as an important part of their personal, spiritual, and cultural development

As well as opportunities to perform both as soloists and in ensemble groups during their music lessons, children take part in the following events and opportunities:

EYFS and KS1 take part in three musical performances each year: the Christmas Nativity, Mother's Day assembly and Father's Day assembly. They have also been to see The Snowman which was performed by Wigan Youth Orchestra.

In KS2, children perform in our Christmas Carol Service and the annual KS2 summer production, in which the Y6 children take the lead roles.

Year 3 attend Wigan Music Service Gala Concert each year which gives them the opportunity to watch young musicians from across the authority perform in a variety of ensembles.

Year 5 work with Wigan Music Service to prepare a performance for parents each year displaying their learning on their flutes and clarinets.

The KS2 choir have regular opportunities to perform, for example to sing in community events each year and take part in Wigan Music Service's Carols and Choirs at Christmas, which provides them with the opportunity to perform to a large audience and as part of a massed choir. In school, the choir sing in school worships and on special occasions.

All our children have the opportunity to watch live performances across the year. In the Summer Term, Wigan Music Service perform 'Music Alive' to widen children's knowledge of the different instruments and inspire them to take up music lessons in the following academic year.

We also extend our offer to Hindsford Day Nursery and Chanters Care Home who come to watch some of our performances each year.

In the future

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

In future years, our Music Development Plan aims to achieve the following:

- Deliver CPD to develop assessment strategies in music.
- Further develop co-curricular opportunities for KS1 children.
- Develop a strategy to further engage Pupil Premium and SEND children in curriculum and co-curriculum music.
- Increasing links with local high school music departments.

Further information (optional)

[About the Work of Wigan Music Service](#)