

Music development plan summary: St Peter's Catholic Primary School

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	Mrs Karen Walker
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs Karen Walker
Name of local music hub	Tameside 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.

St Peter's Catholic School is at the heart of a Christ centred community where every person's uniqueness is celebrated with joy and truly valued.

We foster caring, supportive relationships based on mutual respect and love.

We embrace the different communities to which we all belong – home, school and parish, as well as our local, national and global families.

When we welcome the child, we welcome the family.

We strive for excellence in all we do; to be the best that we can be.

At St Peter's, we believe that every child, inclusive of all special educational needs disabilities and disadvantage, can access, appreciate and grow in their music education. Each child at St Peter's engages in quality music education from their entry into our Nursery until they leave in Year 6.

Music has four main aspects: singing, listening, composing and performing.

Children in our Early Years Foundation Stage follow the Development Matters Outcomes through the area of Expressive Arts and Design (Music). The EYFS Curriculum at St Peters sets out the progressive objectives for teachers to plan their activities to match the lessons in each topic.

Key Stage 1 music sessions are taught each week by class teachers using the music scheme 'Charanga,' which delivers all National Curriculum objectives for music for Year 1 and Year 2.

Key Stage 2 music sessions for Years 3, 4, and 5 are taught each week by the music specialist (external) from Tameside Music Service.

Key Stage 2 Year 6 music sessions are taught each week by the class teacher using National Curriculum objectives delivered via music scheme 'Charanga.'

EYFS

Children experience music through continuous provision during indoor and outdoor learning. Activities are set up with areas for singing, music making and performing in line with the Development Matters outcomes. Also, a weekly session is taught using resources such as 'Sing up', '2 simple compose' and 'Music a day' to enhance the skills, confidence and vocabulary of our children.

Key Stage 1

45-minute sessions are taught weekly by teaching staff. The 'Charanga' scheme follows the National Curriculum outcomes and the 2021 Music Model curriculum as well as the National Music Plan. There is a focus on great composers, and on music from various cultures, as well as opportunities to hear live and recorded music. Our curriculum is enhanced by the BBC 'Ten Pieces,' by cross curricular links, by

local brass band performances, by our emphasis on one composer in each year group and by our focus on the orchestra.

Key Stage 2

45-minute sessions are taught weekly by an external specialist teacher of music from Tameside Music Service (TMS). Year groups 3, 4 and 5 learn to play a brass instrument which continues for three years until year 6. Year 6 are then offered the opportunity to continue learning their instrument during an extra-curricular session with TMS. TMS implement aspects of the Ten Pieces and orchestral teachings. They follow the National Curriculum objectives and the 2021 Music Model curriculum. Music theory underpins the practical learning, showing progression throughout the year. Skills are revisited and built upon year after year. In addition, all children will also learn about a composer during the academic year. By the time they leave St Peter's, they will have a deeper understanding of eight different composers. Children in Key Stage 2 take part in end of year performances with TMS showcasing their achievements to parents, staff, children, governors and our wider community.

The music coordinator and head teacher provide digital resources from Sing Up, Charanga and others, for whole school singing, Masses and assemblies. These link to the Church's liturgical year and to current affairs. Various musical experiences are played as children enter assemblies and exit assemblies. Our school mission song is also sung by all during the assemblies.

Instrument resources can be found in a central area. They consist of a half class set of Glockenspiels, untuned percussion, two keyboards, various drums, a guitar and xylophones, a set of boom whackers, and a set of ocarinas. The school piano. (which is tuned yearly) is located in the hall. Children in the EYFS have their own resources in their classroom areas. All resources are checked and audited by the music coordinator yearly.

In addition, there are opportunities for singing and dance sessions during time lunch time when children rehearse for Young Voices, Masses or performance events (such as our regular performances at Willow Wood Hospice). These rehearsals are led by the music coordinator or the head teacher.

The school choir links with schools around the area managed by TMS for an annual singing workshop.

All key stages have assemblies twice a week and an additional singing session weekly with the head teacher. Each class performs two class assemblies each year and two class Masses in the chapel (with the exception of our Nursery class, for whom there is one Mass at the end of the academic year), building on whole school singing and class singing. These sessions use a variety of singing techniques such as solos, duets, groups, echo and descants.

Each year we have a BIG ARTS WEEK, which encompasses all the arts, such as music, drama, drawing, painting, sculpture etc. Each year we invite local artist into school to share their experiences and skills with the children. Examples include local vocal musician Jack Curley performing his songs with his guitar and a Mexican dancer.

Music vocabulary is displayed in classes and is used during lessons. The music coordinator assesses the teaching, planning and evidencing of music in school for effectiveness and progression to ensure a diverse and rich curriculum is being taught. The music coordinator assesses the learning that children are experiencing through drop-ins to lessons, through photographic and video evidence and through pupil voice. The music coordinator networks with staff to provide support and advice for their teaching.

All children are supported in class by teaching assistants. Our children with SEND are supported by having the same teacher each week for continuity. Adaptations are offered, and children with 1:1 support work alongside their adult. Objectives of our music sessions can be carried out in areas more comfortable to our children with SEND, such as the oasis. Peer support and mixed ability grouping also provide valuable support to our children with SEND. Lessons are adapted to offer opportunities to all of our children, inclusive of all learning needs and disabilities.

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.

There are extra opportunities for children to explore their love for music and enhance their own interests outside of the music curriculum.

The school has a choir which practises weekly after school. It is open to all children in Key Stage Two. The choir children perform regularly at Masses, assemblies, and at Christmas and Easter performances. The choir is often invited to sing at events such as Willow Wood Hospice at Christmas, Easter and Summer, at the Christmas tree light switch on in Stalybridge and the food fest, and for other visiting schools.

We have links to Hattersley Brass, and all of our children in Key Stage Two are invited to participate in this band.

TMS also offer choir sessions for key stage 2 to all local schools. Both of these opportunities are free of charge.

We offer singing coaching on a 1:1 basis for children who wish to audition for the Halle choir or other outside interests. We also offer this individual coaching for children singing solo parts during Masses, assemblies and performances.

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.

Here at St Peter's, we have many musical performance opportunities throughout the year. All year groups perform a class assembly and a Mass twice a year. We have a Christmas and an Easter performance for all children, and a summer performance for Key Stage 2.

Our choir joins together with school staff to become 'one choir' for the First Holy Communion Mass on a Saturday during May each year.

Key Stage 2 perform for school and parents at the end of the year, showcasing their progress with their instruments led by Christian Conway (our external music specialist teacher) from TMS. Reception and Key stage 1 perform an end of unit performance using glockenspiels or recorders which is evidenced using videos. Nursery evidence their achievements using photographs and videos.

Year 6 perform an end of year musical for their final summer production, with songs, dances, acting, lighting, costumes, props and make up. It is held in our school hall and is open to all families and parishioners to watch. The rest of Key Stage 2 support year 6 by singing as a choir.

At St Peter's, we organise a range of musical opportunities for our children.

We take a group of Key Stage 2 children to 'Young Voices' each year. School pays for this, but parents pay for transport by coach. We offer children in Year 5 the opportunity to go to the Halle performance in conjunction with TMS. They join members of the Halle Orchestra and play their instrument alongside them. Parents pay for the transport. We take a small group of boys to the 'Boys Sing' experience by the Halle. Transport to this event is funded by school. The choir join other schools in the TMS 'Big Sing' each year to develop new vocal skills and performance skills in front of an audience. We walk to a nearby school with parent helper escorts.

In the future

Areas of development

- Invite a local brass band to perform once again for our children.
- For children to be awarded a certificate for musical contribution at the end of the half term.
- To develop ensembles within the weekly singing sessions.
- To encourage staff members who play an instrument to perform in assembly as a group.
- To develop the musical technology part of the curriculum, ensuring music apps, I-pads and music systems are up to date.
- To continue to work in partnership with Tameside Music Service enabling us to use their specialist skills and experience to continue to teach the 7 features of high-quality music provision.
- To showcase music on the school website.

Further information (optional)

Charanga scheme of work

School singing resource-Sing Up

National Curriculum for music 2014

Development Matters- EYFS curriculum

Tameside Music Service Hub

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.