

Music development plan summary: St. Bede's Catholic Infant School



Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Miss Rachel Parle
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Sound! Warrington & Halton
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.

Key Stage 1 - Music is taught in class every week at Key Stage 1. Lessons are 60 minutes (4% of teaching time) and are supported by the resources on the Sparkyard scheme of work. We have adapted the Sparkyard spiral curriculum to ensure that children regularly revisit previous learning and to support the age and stage of our children. Our KS1 children are assessed in Music in half-termly segments, through teacher assessments using our bespoke assessment document.

EYFS - We teach music in Foundation Stage 2 as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year and as part of the specific area of Expressive Arts: Being Imaginative, identified in the Foundation Stage Framework 2024. We relate the musical aspects of the children's work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs).

Music contributes to a child's personal and social development. Songs to support daily routines and those linked to other curriculum areas, such as Maths and English, increase a child's knowledge and understanding of the world.

We have a bespoke 'Skills Progression' document for all year groups. Our curriculum is designed to develop key musical skills including creating rhythms, engaging in singing and keeping a steady beat.

To enrich classroom learning we host weekly singing sessions facilitated by Miss Parle, the Music Lead. Weekly whole-school sessions last for approximately 20 minutes.

Since 2022, all children have received further music tuition delivered by Claire Longstaff, a Music specialist, under the umbrella of Accent Music Hub (now known as Sound! Warrington and Halton). These 40 minute sessions take place in Summer Term and last for 5 weeks. There is a high focus on the correct use of musical language and use of a range of un-tuned percussion instruments. These sessions also serve as extremely effective and high-quality CPD for staff.

Our annual Artsweek incorporates elements of music – eg, this year, Year 1 used glockenspiels to learn Twinkle Twinkle Little Star and performed for the school.

A full overview of our school Music curriculum can be found [here](#).

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. Bede's Catholic Infant School we have a well-established Year 2 choir that has been running for more than 30 years. The choir runs as an extra-curricular club after school and lasts for 45 minutes for 4 weeks, in each term. This fully inclusive choir also performs weekly during whole-school singing sessions. All Year 2 children are eligible to attend, with no cost to families.

All Year 2 children take part in the annual Infant Music Festival which is hosted by the local Music Hub. The Music Festival has an annual theme and the whole-school learn the songs, with Year 2 attending the Festival in Summer Term. There are many curriculum links in the festival, including phonics, science and literacy. St. Bede's Infants has hosted the annual planning meeting for the last 4 years and further demonstrates our commitment to ensuring that our children are provided with a range of musical experiences.

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.

Our children have the opportunity to perform or experience high quality music.

- Weekly, whole-school singing sessions facilitated by Miss Parle, Music Lead
- Children sing during whole-school Collective Worship
- Children sing during Class Collective Worship for parents (termly)
- Year 2 Infant Music Festival at Wade Deacon High School
- Bi-annual music sessions with AmaSing (inclusive arts organisation and charity foundation). These sessions range from dance and drumming to song-writing and whole-school singing.
- Year 2 attend annual carol concert at St. Michael's Church, attended by many members of the local Catholic Community.
- Annual trip to/from local pantomimes (small charge per family)
- Year 2 perform for the Jubilee Club (a group of older women from the local Catholic community)
- Annual whole-school nativity, attended by parents and members of the wider school community, where each child is given a part to play.
- Annual whole-school Easter service at church, attended by parents and members of the wider school community (Governors, local priest).
- Annual Year 2 leavers' assembly, attended by parents and members of the wider school community. Through the use of Sparkyard, it's possible to share songs with parents so that children can engage in music outside school.
- Annual Artsweek
- Ad hoc musical celebrations eg, staff birthday and retirement (we recently had a whole-school festival centred around music), special visitors etc.
- Music specialist from the Archdiocese of Liverpool has delivered 4 sessions of singing with our Year 2 children, culminating in a whole-school performance. Children were then invited to join a local youth choir with several members of the Year 2 cohort who are now members.
- Year 2 visit St. Bede's Junior School each year to watch their annual performance (Year 4, Year 5, Year 6).

With the exception of the pantomime where a small, voluntary contribution is requested, all Music events are free to attend.

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:

- We are exploring opportunities to develop SEND specific resources and activities for use within our SEND Intervention space (The Hub).
- Continue to encourage attendance at Year 2 choir and further develop performance opportunities.
- Strive to fund the continuation of musical experiences through budget allocation.

Further information (optional)

The Music Subject Leader completes and evaluates an Action Plan for Music, linked to the School Development Plan. The Music Subject Leader conducts an annual learning walk (usually during Artsweek) and conducts monitoring each term (including work scrutiny, pupil voice, planning and assessment). The information gained during monitoring activities feeds into the subject action plan.