

## Music development plan summary: St Mary and All Saints Primary School

Music is more than a subject. It is a powerful accompaniment to our lives and a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity. Our high-quality music education engages and inspires pupils to develop a love of music and their talent as musicians, and so increase their self-confidence, creativity and sense of achievement, with singing being a golden thread woven into the fibre of the school.

Through our carefully designed, sequential scheme of work, using Charanga, our children:

- learn to sing with accurate pitch in unison or harmony with attention to phrase and dynamics
- are capable of playing a simple melody on an instrument in an ensemble and to learn it from, for example, staff notation
- are able to create short phrases of new melodic music
- demonstrate knowledge of music from a range of musical traditions
- increasingly enjoy both their music lessons and taking part in the wider musical life of the school.

### Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	13/9/2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	June 2025
Name of the school music lead	Claire Levin
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Bucks Music Trust
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Young Voices

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.

Our school curriculum for music is published for each year group online.

<https://www.stmaryallsaints.co.uk/page/?title=Music&pid=55>

The school delivers the original Charanga Scheme of Work which is designed for non-specialist teachers to deliver without further advanced CPD. The scheme offers a practical, structured resource bank for teaching music and contains lessons, songs, warm ups and a range of other musical activities that support every aspect of musical learning in the primary school. A steady progression overview which links where possible to curriculum themes has been devised to ensure consistent musical development across each phase. By using Charanga as well as our instrumental opportunities, we can ensure that our children are fulfilling the aims for musical learning stated in the National Curriculum.

All Charanga lessons cover a level of musicianship with singing and performing. Children are encouraged to participate in lessons on their instruments if they have individual lessons, to enrich all the children's experience and to differentiate by outcome. However, we also include whole-class instrumental lessons as part of our curriculum, to enhance every child's musical experience:

Reception and year 1 – range of percussion instruments

Y2: ocarina

Y3: recorders

Y4: glockenspiels

Y5: violin (Specialist teacher supplied by local music hub BMT)

Y6: ukulele

All children benefit from 20-minute Singing Assembly every week, which is protected time. Music lessons are delivered to ensure children receive between 40-50 minutes weekly on average, across the term.

St Mary's is an inclusive school with high aspirations for the engagement and achievement of our pupils with SEND. All lessons are adapted as needed to meet the needs of our pupils, whether this be teaching content or environmental adaptations such as seating, headphones, regulatory breaks etc. More information on our SEND provision can be found here:

<https://www.stmaryallsaints.co.uk/page/?title=SEND+%26amp%3B+Inclusion&pid=73>

## Part B: Extra-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.

We run a weekly KS2 choir for one hour per week which is free of charge and fully inclusive, with no limit on numbers. Last year, we had approximately 70 children in the choir. We were lucky enough to participate in a range of prestigious venues including Echoes at the Royal Albert Hall, Young Voices at Wembley Arena, Beaconsfield Festival of Choirs, Beaconsfield Christmas Lights 'Switch On', and Beaconsfield Festival of Lights.

We also run a weekly Year 3 and 4 Musical Theatre club for approx. 20 children, which is free of charge and inclusive.

In previous years, clubs have included 'School of Rock' and a P-Bone club.

In Autumn 2, our handbell ensemble rehearses regularly to perform in the Christmas Service, Beaconsfield Festival of Light and the Curzon Centre.

Every year we run the SMAS Summer Sessions: three musical concerts, one for each phase, where instrumentalists perform to an audience of their parents and peers. KS1 and reception also perform as a class or year group, showcasing their Charanga work from that term.

The choir participated in both Echoes and Young Voices in 2024. The programme was demanding and the performances were both exciting and inspirational and an incredible opportunity for the children.

<https://www.bucksmusic.org/tag/echoes/>

<https://www.youngvoices.co.uk/>

Within the school, we welcome all children and parents to 'Carols in the Courtyard', where the choir and handbell ensemble perform and all attendees are encouraged to join in with some Christmas classics. The choir and handbell ensemble also performed at the local Community Centre for some people from our local Elderly Care home. An annual favourite in the school calendar is our Harvest Festival, where parents are invited to watch each class perform a pop song with the words re-written around the theme and Christian values of Harvest.

We understand the values and benefits that come through performing to an audience and have ensured that every year group has at least three performance opportunities per year. Year group performances include:

Reception: Harvest Festival, Reception Christmas Nativity and SMAS Summer Sessions

KS1: Harvest Festival, KS1 Christmas Nativity and SMAS Summer Sessions

LKS2: Harvest Festival, Christmas carol concert and SMAS Summer Sessions

Y5: Harvest Festival, Easter service, SMAS Summer Sessions and performance on violins to parents

Y6: Harvest Festival, Christmas Service in the church, SMAS Summer Sessions, Summer Production and Leaver's Service in the church

From Year 3 upwards, all children are encouraged to learn an instrument through Bucks Music Trust. Booking directly with BMT and signposted via Parentmail, parents have the option to pay for individual or group lessons on violin, drums, brass, woodwind, guitar, piano, and singing. Where needed, school assigns Pupil Premium funding to ensure that every child who is eager to learn an instrument has that opportunity. Pupils are able to loan instruments via BMT and any qualifications or awards pupils achieve are celebrated at weekly Celebration Assemblies where children are encouraged to perform. This has the added bonus of encouraging more take-up with instruments as they see their peers perform.

Our designated Music Room is available for lessons and rehearsal subject to safeguarding.

The school has a positive relationship with Bucks Music Trust, who provide specialist teaching to Year 5 in violin for one term each year. BMT also provides opportunities for children to attend music clubs on Saturdays. The school signposts and hosts members of BMT in music assemblies to advertise these.

Annually, children are selected to participate in 'Chorister for a Day' at St George's Chapel, Windsor.

## 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.

As a school, we value the cultural enrichment that comes with attending a live performance. All children enjoy a pantomime annually, which is age-appropriate. In addition, we ensure that the music playing in assembly often showcases live performance to enhance their exposure. This is further developed by the children's (and sometimes staff!) performances in Celebration Assembly.

In daily assemblies, children listen to a wide range of music from different genres and artists, from classical, through to contemporary pop and rap.

A highlight of our week is our weekly, protected Singing Assembly where singing skills are explicitly taught, as well the joy of singing as part of a group. A variety of songs are selected including Christian-based hymns and worship songs as well as secular music, chosen to reflect the vision and values of the school.

As detailed above, the choir participate in a wide range of performances including Echoes and Young Voices and the school organises its own events such as Carols in the Courtyard and SMAS Summer Sessions. In addition to the musical experience, our choir and hand bell ensemble benefit from the feeling of spreading festive joy to others through music when we perform for our elderly friends at the local community centre.

Year group performances:

Reception: Harvest Festival, Reception Christmas Nativity and SMAS Summer Sessions

KS1: Harvest Festival, KS1 Christmas Nativity and SMAS Summer Sessions

LKS2: Harvest Festival, Christmas carol concert and SMAS Summer Sessions

Y5: Harvest Festival, Easter service, SMAS Summer Sessions and performance on violins to parents

Y6: Harvest Festival, Christmas Service in the church, SMAS Summer Sessions, Summer Production and Leaver's Service in the church

Take up of Choir: approx. 70

Take up of Musical Theatre: approx. 20

## In the future

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

We are ambitious to develop our handbell ensemble to include a wider programme and a variety of instruments in an after school club: Autumn 2024

We would like to widen the choir opportunity to KS1 by introducing a lunchtime singing club – 2024-25

We plan to increase our number of visiting concerts and performers – Summer 2025

We plan to train teachers to have the capacity to move towards the new Model Music Curriculum Charanga Scheme of Work, which is more closely aligned with the non-statutory MMC.

## Further information (optional)

<https://www.bucksmusic.org/>

<https://www.youngvoices.co.uk/>

<https://www.bucksmusic.org/echoes/>