

Music development plan summary: Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

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Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Colleen Elvidge
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Music-on-Sea (local hub)
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Greater Essex Music Hub

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.

Curriculum Music

Our music curriculum can be found at <https://www.shcps.co.uk/our-learning/music>

The music curriculum at Sacred Heart is taught by a music specialist that teaches all music lessons from year 1-6. During the academic year 25-26, we have transitioned across to resources that use the Model Music Curriculum and predominantly using Charanga Musical School to teach music. Across the school and children engage in a weekly music lesson. It provides lesson plans, assessment, clear progression, and engaging and exciting whiteboard resources to support every lesson, which is further enhanced by additional resources. The MMC Scheme supports all the requirements of

the national curriculum and has been used to ensure that across the year, children have developed the skills that are expected in music as per the National Curriculum.. The MMC aims to support all pupils in their musical progression through the Key Stages. By offering a rich and varied musical framework that nurtures fundamental musical techniques alongside building musical knowledge, it offers a clear pathway towards mature musical understanding. Staff notation not only complements developing aural skills, improvisation, memorisation and composition, but also provides the opportunity for pupils to be taught music independently both in class and after they have left school. The foundations of this will be laid at primary school.

EYFS: Children have access to music activities through continuous provision and high quality tuned and untuned instruments. In the outdoor area, there are opportunities to engage in music activities in their own performance area. Much learning is done through songs and rhymes, which positively impacts language and physical skills. Music also has a positive impact on children's imagination and creative play and is encouraged in our EYFS and Nursery setting. Children have the opportunity to sing songs, listen to music and respond through dance and performing.

25/26: Children in years 1-6 followed the MMC, which builds a progression of skills year on year. The scheme was further supplemented with additional resources used by the music specialist teacher, including whole class instrumental lessons with ukulele, recorder and glockenspiel. This is set out in each year group's yearly overview on our school website. As part of the scheme, children experience using untuned and tuned instruments and cover the musical elements in an integrated, practical, exploratory and child-led approach to musical learning. At Sacred Heart, we use recorders, Ukuleles and glockenspiels for learning tuned instruments.

Some year groups focus on ensemble singing at particular times of the year. This corresponds with year 2 attending the Infant Music Festival and year 6 preparing for their annual end of year performance.

26/27: The Charanga scheme will still be used in Sept 26, but will follow the DfE's recommended Model Music Curriculum. Class music lessons across the school will be taught by an in-house music specialist teacher (Mrs Colleen Elvidge). Lessons will incorporate additional resources that Mrs Elvidge has used and that, in her experience, enhance the Charanga programme. There are also plans for music to be used to enhance other areas of the curriculum where possible. For example, in PSHE and history.

SEND: In addition to class music lessons, there will be additional small group music sessions for selected SEND pupils. Music has been recognised as a powerful tool for supporting and enabling children with SEND, helping to improve communication, emotional regulation and motor skills. In addition, the groups will support communication skills and social interactions.

Children that already learn an instrument, will also be encouraged to further their skills as part of whole class music teaching. In the next academic year, children in UKS2, will

also continue to learn to produce music digitally. All classes will have an opportunity to learn an instrument as part of their whole class teaching. This will include recorders, glockenspiels and ukulele (when available from Music-on-Sea).

Whole School Singing

There is a strong tradition of singing at Sacred Heart. It is a central part of the life of our school, our faith and school community. The children play a lead role in the church masses that are at the heart of the Catholic life of our school and at key times in the liturgical year. Children are encouraged to lead worship through singing. At every school assembly, we come together to sing. There is also a weekly singing assembly for both KS1 and KS2.

School Performance Opportunities

Autumn Term: All children are involved in KS1 and KS2 Christmas Nativity Performances. EYFS also perform their own Christmas Nativity.

Spring Term: Year 4 and 5 perform an Easter concert.

Summer Term: Year 6 perform an end of year production; whole school talent show. KS1 children will have the opportunity to put together a small performance as part of their music lessons, linked to English and Traditional Tales. This will give children an opportunity to experience performing and learning songs and lines.

In 25/26, a regular music showcase was organised to allow children that have music tuition and ensemble groups to perform to an audience. As part of a Friday Celebration Assembly, there will be further opportunities for children to perform alongside adults as part of our whole school worship. There was also a summer concert. This will continue in the upcoming academic year, as well as opportunities for those children that learn an instrument to perform to their peers.

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.

Start with what music tuition your school offers outside of what is taught in lesson time, including one-to-one, small-group and large-group tuition for instruments or voice.

Instrumental tuition

During the academic year 25-26, we had extended our provision to include flute, saxophone and clarinet. Unfortunately, this is no longer available, however, music services are seeking a new peripatetic teacher. Our longstanding guitar teacher also moved on, so we are currently seeking a replacement.

Peripatetic teaching currently offered (26/27): drums, keyboard, violin.

25/26-38 children were receiving music tuition via peripatetic lessons.

Funding/costing

Lessons are on a 1-2-1 basis and are charged over 10 weeks and last 15 minutes. Instruments can be hired via Music-on-Sea music hub. Many of the children have their own guitar or can borrow donated instruments by prior agreement with the tutor and school. The school provides a drum kit and keyboard for lessons.

SEN: lessons are available to any children within school. Several SEN children currently have lessons.

After school clubs/Ensembles (24/25)

Charged at £25 per term. PP children are offered 1 funded club, but at the moment take up is quite low. This is currently under review.

Choir for years 4/5/6: after school club

Music Makers Club (open to yr 3/4/5/6).

Recorder Club is available as a before school club (open to yr 3/4/5/6).

Extra Curricula music

25/26-The choir took part in a festival of music at the Palace Theatre, giving them the opportunity to rehearse and perform as part of a live performance. Year 5 also attended the annual SEESMA (South East Essex Music Association) mass choirs event at the Cliffs Pavilion Theatre. The Music makers group also performed at the Cliffs Pavilion for the first time. Year 2 again attended the Infant Music Festival. The choir were also invited to sing at the Mayor's inaugural mass, as well as being invited to sing at different events within the community. At Christmas time, the choir performed alongside St Mary's school in "Countdown to Christmas".

In 25-26, the music showcase afternoons proved popular with children and parents and the plan is to continue these in the next academic year. In the upcoming year (26/27), there are opportunities for the choir to perform at the O2 as part of Young Voices, as well as at Brentwood Cathedral as part of the Christmas celebrations. There will also be another opportunity to join with St Mary's school to perform in "Countdown to Christmas".

Music-on-Sea

25/26-Music hub events are publicized via our newsletter. Through the music hub, various funded workshops are made available and have been enjoyed by the children this academic year.