



School Music Development Plan

St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School



Intent

Music is a universal language that allows the pupils of St. Cuthbert's to express themselves as composers, performers, improvisers and communicators. We aim to inspire a love of music that not only develops a subject-specific skill set that explores the interrelated dimensions offered, but also challenges children to consider their understanding of history, art, technology and culture; thus, reinforcing our global and local themes as a school community. Our curriculum endeavours to expose pupils to the works of great musicians and composers (historical and current), and to develop an appreciation of quality listening and appraising. We are passionate that music belongs to every pupil of every ability.

Our musical opportunities – whether it be curriculum time, instrumental lessons, whole-school singing or extra-curricular activities – nurture pupils' talent and creativity, but most importantly, teach our children to use their voices, take part and celebrate their unique gifts.

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	Beth Funnell
Name of local music hub	Resonate Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation	Charanga

Curriculum

Area of provision	What we are currently doing well at in this area:	Areas for development and action to be taken
We have embedded a high quality, ambitious music curriculum throughout our provision, covering progression within the Development Matters, The EYFS Framework (expressive arts and design) and the national curriculum. This includes planned assessment throughout the year to track progress, using a range of methods including Evidence Me.	Timetabled high quality music provision in Early Years (2YO – Reception) threaded throughout provision and in weekly lessons from Y1-Y6 during Autumn 2, Spring 2 and Summer 2. As well as musical opportunities integrated into each class throughout the day. We use our own curriculum, supported by Charanga and Resonate, which incorporates elements of the Model Music Curriculum. Class teachers gather video evidence of each year group on EvidenceMe, with the pre-learning, termly key focus and post-learning evidenced and assessed.	To allow further CPD for new staff members, enabling them to feel confident in assessment.
We have an embedded, high quality music curriculum within Early Years, which covers the progression within the EYFS Framework. This is threaded throughout continuous provision to enhance independent learning opportunities.	Timetabled high quality music provision in Early Years (2YO-Reception) threaded throughout provision. We use a clear and comprehensive Nursery Rhyme Spine that is progressive throughout the EYFS year groups with a focus on rhythm and rhyme, with a daily focus on sharing rhymes. Children have access to a range of musical instruments in both indoor and outdoor provision to enhance learning opportunities.	To develop parental engagement with nursery rhymes to develop musical knowledge at home.

Our curriculum is fully inclusive and can be accessed by all pupils. Every staff member has knowledge of all pupil needs ensuring that provision is adapted and accessible to all.	Charanga is a very clear and comprehensive scheme of work which covers all the National Curriculum and Model Music Curriculum requirements in a full and progressive way. Our children are active learners and opportunities are provided for them to explore music in learning which is bespoke and open ended.	Meetings with the SENCO to discuss new starter children in relation to their access of music - sound sensitivity, fine motor control, hearing impairments, previous musical experience etc. <i>Review July 2027.</i>
Our curriculum includes listening to examples of musical genres from a wide range of cultures and traditions.	Examples of our focus songs: In the Grove (Y1 – Spring) – Blues and Latin Hands, Feet, Heart (Y2 – Autumn) – South African Three Little Birds (Y3 – Spring) – Reggae Blackbird (Y4 – Summer) – Local Area Dancing in the Street (Y5 – Summer) – Motown You’ve Got a Friend (Y6 – Spring) – 70s Ballard	Implement and evaluate the impact of reference materials across all year groups, adapting provision to maximise pupil progress and curriculum depth.
We have timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year (KS1 to KS2).	Music lessons are scheduled into our weekly timetable on a half-termly basis.	Continue weekly Celebration of the Word, assemblies, cultural and religious celebrations to supplement music lessons with a variety of hymns and musical genres.

Co-curricular		
Area of provision	What we are currently doing well at in this area:	Areas for development and action to be taken
We have provided access to singing opportunities within and across the curriculum and singing assemblies,	All children from Reception – Year 6 attend weekly worships and assemblies which begin and end with a hymn. They are exposed to and immersed within a variety of genres, styles and textures of music. The	Organise another ‘Song Showcase’ to celebrate musical talent in 2027 - an annual event. Continue our SLA with the Archdiocese of Liverpool Music Department - Schools Singing

cultural and religious celebrations for students in Reception – Y6	children positively engage in the music through leading the session, actions, implementing harmony, two-part singing and accompaniment.	Programme and participate in services and masses throughout the year.
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Enrichment

Area of provision	What we are currently doing well at in this area:	Areas for development and action to be taken
We ensure that parents are aware of the opportunities available to students both in school and in the local area. We have established a school brass ensemble.	Our school's music coordinator offers an afterschool music club - tailored to the children's current interests - to support children who would like to further enhance their skills that they're learning during music lessons. Children with a keen interest and/or particular talent are invited to attend.	Inform parents of opportunities available to us in our local area with Resonate - an updated list becomes available in the Autumn Term.
We have dedicated and appropriate space for lessons, rehearsals and practice to be facilitated in school.	The choir is based in a classroom. Instrumental lessons are accessed in our Intervention Room, with access to all instruments for these sessions.	Continue to use our Pods to support in facilitating lessons, rehearsals and practices.
We have school performances and celebrations threaded throughout the school and liturgical year.	- Mass (Class & Whole School) - Stay and Pray - Collective Worship - Assemblies (inc. Leavers Assembly) - Student led celebrations (inc. Talent Show) - Christmas plays - Nativities - Stations of the Cross - Easter Story	Provide further opportunities to involve our musicians in our performances and celebrations – ensembles and individual contributions.

We have organised opportunities for the children to enjoy live performance as they become available to us. We embrace a variety of musical genres and styles to allow students to access a diverse cultural experience.	Our children have access to live music (online and in person) throughout each term, provided by Resonate online concerts online and Liverpool Philharmonic KS1 and KS2 concerts.	To source further opportunities for Early Years to have a comparable musical experience.
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Other Musical Opportunities

Area of provision	What we are currently doing well at in this area:	Areas for development and action to be taken
Our Budget sufficiently covers costs for instrumental resources, staffing (internal and visiting), curriculum subscription, live music opportunities and staff CPD.	A sufficient budget is allocated to ensure the quality of music provision across the school is maintained. Budget is allocated to: - Charanga - Replacement and maintenance of musical instruments - Peripatetic teachers - Enrichment activities – iSing & SingUp - Schools Concerts Package - Early Years Outdoor Music Provision - Ace Play – Musical Panels (EYFS & Playground) - Transport to concerts, events and celebrations - CPD (music lead & staff)	Continue to liaise with staff and visiting music teachers to discuss any resources required to ensure the quality of provision.

We have strong partnerships with our local music education hub, Resonate, attending network meetings throughout the year, in addition to receiving weekly updates and signposting to wider opportunities across the city.	Resonate, our local hub , provides resources, tutors, curriculum support, events, projects, network meetings and training for our staff.	Attend planned network meetings in 2027 (online)
There is an innate culture of appreciating and valuing music throughout our school and this is continually invested in and celebrated.	Our Leadership Team promotes music as being a central aspect of our schools' faith, curriculum and culture. Music is celebrated and supported in all key stages, time and resources are carefully allocated and opportunities to progress in music are well planned.	Continue to gather Pupil & Staff Voice during Autumn and Summer term and action plan in accordance to responses gathered.

Other aspects of musical success in our school

Number of PP students accessing instrumental and vocal co-curricular opportunities:	36
Number of SEND students accessing instrumental and vocal co-curricular opportunities:	4
Number of students accessing our school choir (boys/girls/SEND/PP/LAC):	boys - 2 girls - 32 SEND - 2

	PP - 23 LAC - 1
Number of students accessing our school ensembles (boys/girls/SEND/PP/LAC):	boys - 12 girls - 14 SEND - 2 PP - 9 LAC - 3
Number of students accessing instrumental/vocal lessons:	26
Number of students performing once a year (boys/girls/SEND/PP/LAC):	Boys - 119 Girls - 114 SEND - 37 PP - 122 FSM - 95
Number of students accessing live music:	(whole school) - 233
Number of looked after children accessing any extra music sessions:	2

Data from Academic Year 2025/2026