

Music development plan summary: St Christophers Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-2026
Date this summary was published	10 th September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	10 th September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Tyler Shannon
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Marianne Hayes
Name of local music hub	Inspiring Music / Charanga Music
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	CBC

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.

At SCA we offer a diverse curriculum to all pupils from Nursery to Year 6 to ensure needs of the individual year groups are met to the best of our ability.

All children from Reception to Year 6 follow the Charanga scheme of work from Inspiring Music. In Nursery and Pre-School children learn through exploring.

Implementation

To help achieve our intended aims, each SCA year group follow a particular musical journey. During each school year, every class will have the opportunity to learn a new musical skill, which is taught by a music specialist from Inspiring music. We believe that with this specialist tuition, tailored to our individual school needs, our children can only thrive. Currently, our music programs see our children learning the following instruments; 2

In KS2 - Recorder, Ukulele and I-Pads (using a specialist music program); with the addition of specialist vocal training.

In KS1 - Specialist lessons focusing on understanding and appreciating music, including using 'voice' to experiment with pitch, tempo, rhyme and rhythm. This will lead on to learning the Djembe in Year Two.

For one term In Reception- Specialist lessons focusing on how children can use their voice in different ways (Voice Music Makers).

For one term in Pre-school- Specialist lessons focusing on "Adventuring into music" using movement and voice.

We believe that by offering these musical opportunities to our children, the expectations from the NC are met.

"...learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level in musical excellence..."

"Pupils should be taught to sing and play musically with increasing confidence and control. They should develop an understanding of musical composition, organising and manipulating ideas within musical structures and reproducing sounds from aural memory".

"Pupils should be taught to: play and perform in solo and ensemble contexts; using their voices and playing music instruments with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression"

When our children are not partaking in their specialist music lessons, teachers deliver lessons following the Charanga scheme of work. Charanga units of work enable children to understand musical concepts through a repetition-based approach to learning. Learning about the same musical concept through different musical activities enables a more secure, deeper learning and mastery of musical skills.

Over time, children can develop both new musical skills and concepts, and re-visit established musical skills and concepts. Repeating a musical skill doesn't necessarily mean their progress is slowing down or their development is moving backwards! It's just shifting within the spiral. Mastery means both a deeper understanding of musical skills and concepts and learning something new.

Each unit of work comprises of the strands of musical learning which correspond with the National Curriculum for Music:

1. Listening and Appraising

2. Musical Activities

- a. Warm-up Games
- b. Optional Flexible Games
- c. Singing
- e. Improvisation
- f. Composition

3. Performing

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 SCA we are fortunate to have many opportunities for the children to develop their music skills. We have 'Rock Steady' band lessons as well as weekly singing assemblies which involve a wide range of songs being learnt performed.

The children take part with confidence and enthusiasm. The children take part in annual concerts at 'The Grove' theatre which involves other schools from the area and is a fantastic showcase for their talents. The concert is attended by families and is very much a community event.

We have taken part in 'Young Voices' and our children enjoy taking part in a Christmas production, music performances and singing within class assemblies which are performed to parents and peers. Harvest festival and Easter provide an excellent opportunity for us to sing some of our favourites 'Cauliflowers fluffy' and 'Spring chicken!'

We offer space for external providers to hold music tuition within the school hall outside of school hours and encourage children who learn musical instruments out of school to take part in our weekly celebration assemblies. We encourage talent shows and provide plenty of opportunities for the children to express themselves through music such as house rewards and religious celebrations. The hall is often used as a space for singing, dancing and performing by all.

Our Year 6's performed outside of school during the Christmas period and sang with teachers and members of the public. We have offered a group to sing this year at the Luton & Dunstable hospital as well as the local care home.

We encourage children to join local music groups and will promote external lessons, tuition and provide opportunities for support with the cost of instruments and practice.

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.

At SCA we operate strong links with the music service to encourage instrumentalists to progress to performing in ensembles. Parents and carers are fully supportive of music making and we have a good attendance at our productions.

Music is played regularly in school and is enjoyed by all. We have a good relationship with Inspiring music and will often invite them to provide performances of what the children have developed inside and out of the classroom setting. We have regular assemblies as well as structured performances including singing, rock steady, piano, recorder and ukele. This starts as young as nursery (age 2) with noise making and sounds.

In the future

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

In the years to come, we are planning to build on our music progress by re-evaluating the current curriculum to upskill in-line with the model music curriculum. We are going to continue to develop children's composition skills and the notation of this.

- We will continue to develop a school choir and children's performance skills with more opportunities to perform throughout the year, with our local music hub and in the community. We would love to provide our children with more opportunities to watch live music performances. Furthermore, we will continue to provide our staff with CPD to continue to develop their confidence and subject knowledge.

Further information (optional)

[Inspiring music curriculum enrichment](#)

[The power of music to change lives](#)