

Music development plan summary: St Benedict Biscop CE Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2023-2024
Date this summary was published	July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Ian Jones
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	The Music Partnership (Staffordshire, Stoke and Telford)
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.

We use Charanga as our whole school music curriculum, from September 2023 we have followed Charanga's scheme for the Model Music Curriculum. This is a differentiated, spiral approach to musical learning which responds to the national requirements for musical education. Within each unit of learning, our pupils revisit existing knowledge and skills and then build upon and extend them incrementally. In this manner, learning is consolidated and augmented, allowing for increasing musical confidence, while constantly being gently challenged to go further.

The MMC covers Years 1-6 with six self-sufficient units per year. Each unit is in turn structured into six steps which are covered through weekly lessons. The first step of each unit introduces that unit's focus in terms of content, skills and knowledge; this is then developed by the middle steps; and a final sixth step assesses the learning

through exciting performances and activities. All classes have an hour of music tuition each week and this is strengthened through additional opportunities for music across the school.

At the centre of each step - each lesson - is a song around which the musical learning is centred. Each lesson takes pupils through the exercises in listening, singing, performing, composing, improvising and discussion. Children are able to recall these songs and can confidently discuss their broadening music knowledge.

Children in Year 5 step away from Charanga and instead have specialist whole class ensemble teaching which deepens their understanding of musical structures and supports their understanding of practise and performance. When children move into year 6, they will return to the Model Music Curriculum on Charanga and continue their journey by following the year 5 units of work. This is to ensure that coverage, skills, and knowledge is continuous to help children revisit prior learning and build upon the foundations already in place.

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.

All children across Key Stage 2 have the option to take Guitar lessons in addition to class music lessons. This group have a performance to parents annually and groups are set based on pupil's proficiency in music rather than their current age.

We have an active choir who meet weekly and have many opportunities to perform together. We attend a number of choir events in the local village and perform to a range of audiences. We also make links with our local church children's choir which provides opportunities for children to work with children from other schools and expand their knowledge.

We have a number of guitars in school which are available for any child to loan rather than parent's needing to purchase an instrument. For whole class ensemble music the instruments are provided free of charge and children can take these home to practise in between lessons.

All children are given access to music lessons and choir, those who are in receipt of pupil premium can have funding to support their access.

All children across school take part in at least one performance each academic year with children in Key Stage 2 taking part in two performances. The opportunity to sing in church with other members of our local community takes place at least every half term.

Part C: Musical experiences

This is about all the other musical events and opportunities that we organise, such as singing in worship, concerts and shows, and trips to professional concerts.

Across the year there are many opportunities for children to be involved in musical performances and events. The children across school sing in worship daily, they rehearse well known hymns and songs and also learn at least one new song every half term. Children also perform these hymns in church services across the academic year. As we enter worship each day we listen to music by a diverse range of composers, the children learn information about the composer and begin to discern what instruments and ensembles they can hear.

The school choir take part in a number of events every year. These include Wombourne Music Festival, Churches Together Christmas Carol Service and Young Voices. We also engage with other events such as the Wombourne Christmas Lights switch on, St Bartholomew's MAT Harvest Festival when we are able to.

The children in Year 5 who participate in whole class ensemble teaching also join with other schools from across Staffordshire to perform to parents at the end of each year.

This year we also provided an opportunity for children in Year 4-6 to visit London to see the show Wicked, this gave the children an opportunity to see a professional performance and understand the opportunities available within the arts.

Funding is available to ensure that disadvantage is not a barrier to any children taking part in these sessions.

In the future

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

- Ensure that children have access to at least one hour of music each week for Key Stages 1 and 2. Staff need to be aware of the importance of consistency with the Model Music Curriculum to help the knowledge, skills and understanding of children.
- Provide continuous professional development for teaching staff following introduction of the Model Music Curriculum.
- Survey staff need for additional training on any of the key areas e.g. improvisation, composition, use of technology. This could be supported by the Music Hub
- Observe quality of teaching in music to continue professional development of staff and higher quality teaching for children.