

Music development plan summary: St George's Beneficial Church of England Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-2025
Date this summary was published	November 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Laura Barnard
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	NA
Name of local music hub	Portsmouth Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	NA

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 St George's we are proud of the musical curriculum and opportunities we offer our children ensuring that music is seen as a joyful and rewarding experience for everyone in our school. Music is taught in each year group for one hour every week using Charanga as our music curriculum and coverage. This music education and technology programme has developed teaching resources and Scheme of Work necessary to enable teachers to teach the required curriculum confidently and skilfully. As Charanga is sponsored by Portsmouth Music Hub, its progression of skills is based on the National Curriculum (Model Music Curriculum) and provides clearly-sequenced units and lessons with week-by-week support (for each year group). Charanga's spiral approach to musical learning, with children revisiting, building and extending their knowledge and skills incrementally, means their learning is consolidated and augmented, increasing their musical confidence year by year. Each unit of work (one per half term), comprises of the strands of musical learning which correspond with the National Curriculum for music. Each unit allows children opportunities for listening to and appraising music, musical activities (singing, playing instruments, improvisation and composition) and performing.

In Foundation Stage, children learn to sing nursery rhymes and action songs such as Pat-A-Cake, Five Little Ducks and 12345 Once I Caught A Fish Alive. Children will listen and respond to different styles of

music, improvise with music leading to playing instruments and share and perform their learning. Cross curricular links begin in Foundation Stage as this overview links with topics such as growing, how I look, colour, toys and our home.

In Year One, different styles of music are introduced to the children such as hip hop, Reggae, Blues and Baroque. Musical vocabulary is introduced to children such as knowing that music has a steady pulse and how voices can sing notes of different pitches (high and low). Children recognise the sound and names of some of the instruments they use such as recorders and glockenspiels and learn the notes of C, D and E.

In Year Two, note development occurs as children recap the notes of C, D and E but are introduced to F and G. Children learn to play an instrumental part that matches their musical challenge, using one of the differentiated parts (a one-note part, a simple part or medium part) and the idea of following musical instructions from a leader is introduced.

It is in Year Three where our children start to think more deeply about the music they listen to. Across the year, children will learn five songs from memory and talk confidently about the style, who sang or wrote them and the meaning of the lyrics. Children will identify the musical dimensions featured in the song, and where they are used (texture, dynamics, tempo, rhythm and pitch) alongside the main sections of the song (introduction, verse, chorus etc.)

In Year Four, the skill of improvisation is introduced to the children. Children will learn how to improvise using instruments in the context of a song they are learning to perform. Improvisation tracks are provided and children will Sing, Play and Copy Back – listen and copy back using instruments and two different notes, Play and Improvise – using their instruments, listen and play their own answer using two different notes and Improvise! – Take it in turns to improvise using three different notes.

In Year Five and Year Six, note development takes place as children create simple melodies using up to six different notes and simple rhythms that work musically with the style of unit songs. They learn what is meant by the keynote or home note and the structure of the melody. Children listen to and reflect upon the developing composition and make musical decisions about how the melody connects with the song. Children begin the first steps in recording their compositions in any way appropriate that recognises the connection between sound and symbol (e.g. graphic/pictorial notation).

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.

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As a Church of England primary school, singing is an everyday occurrence. We learn a variety of songs which we share together in daily acts of worship as a class, key stage or whole school. We have a successful choir who both sing and sign in Makaton and have represented us in many local events, from being in the town centre at Christmas, to singing for the Football club team. This club runs at lunchtimes and has sessions after school. Our local church, Harbour, also runs a weekly 'Chat and Tunes' club with a focus on sung praise.

As a school we currently offer Rocksteady music tuition to parents and they may sign their children up directly - whilst this is a paid session there have been subsidies for Pupil Premium pupils.

Our school engages with the local Portsmouth Music Hub for year group lessons which have included recorder, drums, ukulele and violin.

Our small sensory space has an option for music and it is not uncommon for pupils to enjoy a lunchtime sing-a-long or a playground disco with the head teacher. We appreciate that musical tastes and trends vary and try to encourage pupils to engage with music from a wide range of genres.

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.

St George's have a strong and ever-expanding repertoire of religious songs as all children attend a daily Collective Worship which is a unique blend of dedicated worship and the teachings of Jesus through song. Our 2024 SIAMS inspection noted our worship singing as a strength, quoting "pupils and staff participate with enthusiasm and relish opportunities to sing songs together with actions". St George's School has strong links with St George's Church and Portsmouth Cathedral regularly collaborating for workshops, services and performances. Pupils have the opportunity to perform at our Harvest, Christmas, and Leavers' Service at Portsmouth Cathedral. Our songs are well selected and children are having more ownership over the songs we sing most recently being chosen and recommended by our Collective Worship Champions (a committee of children who work together to steer Collective Worship).

Additionally, we have strong links with Pompey In The Community from a PE curriculum perspective and now we are developing this further to include musical opportunities. We have established a Makaton choir - a unique communication programme that uses symbols (pictures), signs (gestures) and speech to enable people to communicate. Children have worked together as a choir to learn and perform Makaton signs to well-known songs and have recently performed at Gun Wharf Quays to raise money for charity. In the near future we have plans to perform at Fratton Park and Commercial Road. Having recently shown their work in Collective Worship, this has created a real buzz amongst the whole school.

Last year, Year 6 and Year 5 worked with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra to help develop main melody material for participatory songs and instrumentals. Current Year 6s and Year 5s will be

attending Portsmouth Guildhall for the Explore the Orchestra Event where they will hear their work come to life and be performed which will include body percussion and audience participation.

Extra and additional musical experiences for FS and Key Stage One come in the form of Music In The Round and Infant Voices Festival. Music in the Round is a musical concert based – this year - on the brilliant children's book, *Giddy Goat* by Jamie Rix and Lynne Chapman where children will come together to hear especially composed music by Paul Rissmann. The Infant Voices Festival is an opportunity for KS1 children to join with other schools across the city to sing together and share performances, followed by a showcase performance at Portsmouth Guildhall for Year 1 and Year 2 children. This year the theme is My Dream Job and will be using songs from the Hub's songbook My Dream Job.

Extra and additional musical experiences for Key Stage Two children come in the form of having the opportunity to attend the annual Portsmouth's Carol Service at Portsmouth Guildhall and St George's annual Christmas performance being led by Year 5 and Year 6 which has a changing theme every year.

A number of our pupils also attended the D Day 80 Service and performed for The King, other members of the Royal Family and The Prime Minister.

In the future

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

In the future, St George's would like to develop the links with Portsmouth Music Hub specifically in terms of musical instrument lessons for year groups during weekly music lessons as these are hard to book. If budget allows, musical instrument teaching would be a high priority however Portsmouth Music Hub do offer a select few lessons which are free. St George's are not currently receiving these however we are on the waiting list and are in contact regularly with PMH to see when these may become available.

We always seek to expand our extra-curricular offer and a musical theatre club is high on the agenda given our close proximity to the Groundlings Theatre, New Theatre Royal and Kings Theatre.

Further information (optional)

Check out our MudLarkers (Old Portsmouth) Sing-a-long via this link -<https://stgbs.co.uk/film-projects/>, along with the Mill Stream projects the school undertake, we are very proud of our film projects and celebrations of our school and city.

World Cup - we were delighted to feature as a school on track for the World Cup celebrations 2022.

We have composed a song and performed singing and body percussion, on stage, with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

We have been actively involved with the Dockyard Christmas Victorian Choir.

