

Music Development Plan Summary *St. Michael's Nursery and Infant School*



Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024 – 2025
Date this summary was published	29 th September 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	1st September 2025
Name of the school music lead	Miss. Laura Swinburne
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Same as above
Name of local music hub	Cumbria Music Hub
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Charanga Music

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. Michael's Nursery and Infant School, we teach a bespoke, inclusive and exciting Music curriculum to all pupils. We provide them with opportunities to learn about music from other cultures, different genres of music, regularly explore instruments and composition and promote a love of listening, playing and performing. We use high level vocabulary when appraising, using the Interrelated Dimensions of music to support with this. Music is integrated into other subject areas and children can talk confidentially about what they have learned. Adaptations are made and quality first strategies are used to ensure ALL children can access music.

Our Early Years' curriculum involves children having regular, cross curricular opportunities to play, explore and perform during high quality continuous provisions activities, relating to their topic, as well as through structured music lessons each half-term. These lessons involve using a variety of resources such as 'Charanga' and are specifically planned for as outlined in the unit's long-term planning. In the Early Years, children are regularly exposed to listening to a wide variety of music, and singing opportunities are used in all areas of the curriculum. The music lead provides examples of activities and continuous provision ideas to support planning.

In Key Stage One, music is taught during weekly 45-minute lessons, in whole class teaching. All lessons are carefully planned to ensure they are progressive and provide meticulous full coverage of the National Curriculum. Children regularly learn to play the glockenspiel, through Charanga and this is 3 progressive and is built upon over the two years with opportunities to apply it to topic-based learning. Assessment is used meticulously to ensure that ALL children make at least 'good' progress in Music. By the time children leave this school, they are ready to access a KS2 music curriculum.

Our music lead attends cluster meetings and benefits from CPD through our local music service as well as through school's National College subscription and the Charanga programme itself. They offer updates for staff around subject knowledge and give examples of high-quality practice to all.

The Music lead also provides ongoing training for staff to demonstrate how to get the most from Charanga to teach all pupils; this includes the promotion of cross curricular use of the programme. Meetings with the Workington Cluster enables networking with other schools, sharing good practise and feedback regarding strengths and areas for development, with support from the Cumbria Music hub.

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.

Music is a huge part of school life at St. Michael's and this is hugely due to the passion of the Music Lead who is herself, a performer outside of school. She looks for any opportunity to build the children's musical cultural capital and this is appreciated and enjoyed by the entire school community.

During the Autumn 2 term, the children in Key Stage One have the opportunity to join a Christmas music club where they will learn, play and perform some seasonal pieces. They then share this with the wider community by visiting elderly residents at Age UK to perform. They enjoy benefitting from positive feedback on their productions and are always very proud of their efforts and commitment to the local community.

Andy Kelly – a professional local drummer joins Key Stage One each year to offer an after-school drumming club. All pupils in Year 1 and Year 2 have access to this club and this year, we even intend to run a separate one for Reception pupils due to last

year's huge success in KS1! Andy also works with our feeder school so the children can progress with his KS2 drumming if it is something that they wish to. It's a wonderful way to pre-teach for future possibilities.

Miss. Swinburne runs a choir over the summer term which is always driven by the children's' eclectic choices of music. This choir is open to both Key Stage One and Early Year pupils. Children are encouraged to select from a range of music which they have experienced across the year.

Music areas are part of each classroom from TT to Y2 (including outdoor classrooms) and pupils are encouraged to explore and compose; the construction of these areas is guided by the music lead.

Our Computing curriculum across school, which is delivered using the programme Purple Mash, also has a huge focus on Music. During specific lessons, KS1 pupils are taught how to electronically compose and then improve their own pieces.

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.

Harvest provides a wonderful opportunity for all children from Reception to Year 2 to perform in our local church; for parents, carers and their wider families. The children sing a variety of songs to tell the story of Harvest, many of which are accompanied by instrumental compositions.

Year 2 join a variety of local venues to carol sing for the community each Christmas which supports their fundraising campaign in Autumn 2. These events are always very much enjoyed by all and support our PSHE curriculum.

Nursery children perform a Nativity each year in the school hall for firstly the other children across school and then their parents & carers. This offers them the chance to learn lots of new songs and rhymes, to dress up and respond to a wonderful choice of music, and finally, to feel what it is like to perform.

Two further productions take place at St. Michael's Church across the school year; a Christmas, and then Easter production. Easter is a particularly special one for us as it is the first time in the school year that the Nursery join their older peers for a larger scale production. They perform an Easter Bonnet Parade where they sing and show their wonderful designs.

Year 1 and 2 pupils have the opportunity to join the local UDANCE festival each year where they learn and perform a production over a period of months which results in a final show at the local theatre for the public. This is always hugely successful in terms of building the children's' skill of musical response, as well as their confidence.

Year 2 produce a fabulous show each year to celebrate their graduation of this school – they select music of their choice by voting for songs and then create a performance

around them. They are encouraged to explain their choices and why they prefer some musical pieces over others.

Weekly assemblies are optimised each week to explore and discuss a variety of genres of music. From classical to Reggae, so much is heard and explored during assembly time.

In the future

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

To sustain what is already in place for the Music curriculum at St. Michael's as our current offer is something that we have worked hard to achieve over the past three years and we are now at a stage where the music curriculum feels well embedded and right for all. Planning is sound, teaching is quality first and progression is secure.

To grasp any local/national opportunities for our children to excel and build their cultural capital with Music.

Our aim is to choose an instrument which the children will learn to play progressively from the very beginning of their school life at St. Michaels up until transition into KS2. This is something that we will research with the Cumbria Music Hub.

To signpost families to external musical opportunities.