

# Music development plan summary

## St John the Evangelist Catholic Academy

### Overview

| Detail   | Information  |
|--|--|
| Academic year that this summary covers   | 2024-25  |
| Date this summary was published  | July 2024  |
| Date this summary will be reviewed   | July 2025  |
| Name of the school music lead  | Mrs Elizabeth Amison                                     |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) |  |
| Name of local music hub  | The Music Partnership                                    |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)            | Entrust Music Service<br>(part of The Music Partnership) |

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.

Our curriculum annual overview and the Newman Catholic Collegiate Skills Progression Document is published on our school website. All pupils take part in music lessons and are supported and encouraged to participate in curricular and extra-curricular musical activities.

Children in key stage 1 have a weekly 30-minute lesson with a specialist music teacher and learn other songs with their class teaching staff to support learning in other subjects. There is also a weekly key stage singing assembly, focussing on learning hymns for collective worship.

In Year 3 and 4, all children have a weekly 45-minute curriculum lesson with the music specialist teacher that includes whole class recorder tuition. Children also sing a repertoire of songs that progress their singing and musicianship skills.

In Year 5 and 6, all children have a weekly 30-minute curriculum lesson with the specialist music teacher and continue to use recorders, also learning to play basic chords on the ukulele and become familiar with chromatic glockenspiel layout.

Upper key stage 2 singing is supported by participation in the Lichfield Cathedral MusicShare Project.

All children in key stage 2 have weekly key stage singing assembly, primarily to learn repertoire for collective worship.

The bespoke curriculum is closely aligned to the model music curriculum content, with a focus on rhythm work in key stage 1, melody in lower key stage 2 and harmony in upper key stage 2 underpinned by a deepening understanding of the inter-related dimensions of music. Equal use of the three pillars of the curriculum (technical, constructive and expressive), is fundamental to the activities and tasks designed to continuously develop performance, composition and aural (listening) skills.

## **Part B: Extra-curricular music activities and lessons**

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 Key Stage 2 children can elect to take extra instrumental lessons in a small group with specialist instrumental teachers. A parental contribution is sought for this lesson, but the school also subsidises a proportion of the lesson fee for all children; full funding is available, according to need.

Small group instrumental tuition is offered by 4 specialist teachers in drumkit and woodwind, brass and string instruments. These instrument groups are offered because there is a clear pathway to a professional career, through the provision at our collegiate high school, St Margaret Ward Catholic Academy which includes many co-curricular ensembles and relevant qualifications. Whilst in our school, children have the option to take ABRSM Medal assessments in school with their teacher, or be prepared to take ABRSM or Trinity grade examinations at external exam centres when they have progressed sufficiently.

Instruments are available to loan from the school (violins) or the music service ( all other instruments). Lessons are charged via a monthly standing order and children who attract pupil premium funding have lessons fully subsidised. Parents are asked to purchase books and consumables such as strings, rosin, and reeds. Friend of Staffordshire Young Musicians organisation support children who have financial barriers to learning and Young Sounds funding can be sought for those showing

potential who have financial barriers to furthering progress. The music lead teacher and Entrust staff members can signpost children and families to these services.

Children from Year 3 upwards can join the after-school school choir rehearsals and participate in visits to sing in the local community. Older children can perform as part of the Young Voices Concert and all key stage 2 children are invited to sing in the Newman Collegiate Choir in the summer term. Advanced instrumentalists can join the high school orchestra by invitation and there is a recorder club in the Spring term for those who wish to develop their recorder skills further.

All children have access to the free ensembles provided by Entrust Music Service at St John Fisher Catholic Academy on Saturday mornings and other groups run by Entrust Music Service in several Staffordshire locations. The music teacher can also advise about provision of extra music lessons for children in care through the virtual school and other workshops / independent groups in the region. Eg. Youth Projects at RNCM and Congleton Youth Orchestra.

## 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.

There is a myriad of musical experiences for children at our school.

### **Autumn term**

Harvest Festival Singing Assembly for all classes in schools

Year 5 MusicShare Project at Lichfield Cathedral

EYFS and key stage 1 nativity performances

Key Stage 2 carol service

Choir perform carols at the hospital and by invitation at other locations such as care homes

### **Spring Term**

Young Voices concert (Contributions for travel, spectators need to purchase tickets)

Recorder Festival (free to participate, spectators need to purchase tickets)

EYFS Easter Bonnet Parade singing

### **Summer Term**

Halle Orchestra Concert visit (children to watch a professional concert, free minibus travel)

School Summer Concert with singing and instrumental performances by all classes and pupils

Collegiate Choir performance at St Margaret Ward Summer Concert (free to participate, spectators need to purchase tickets)

Year 5 Music taster lesson at St Margaret Ward

Year 6 instrumentalists introductory lessons with peripatetic teachers from St Margaret Ward

## In the future

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

- From 2025-6 start a Songbirds Key Stage 1 choir with support from Entrust
- From 2025-6 introduce whole class instrumental teaching in year 4 in orchestral instruments with support from Entrust.
- Develop a school ensemble, band or group when instrumental skills are in place
- Ensure all children have the opportunity to see a professional level performance at least once a year by inviting artists into school to give a performance assembly.