

Music development plan summary: St. Patrick's Catholic Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2024-25
Date this summary was published	October 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	October 2026
Name of the school music lead	Chloe Toop
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Chloe Toop
Name of local music hub	North London Music Hub (Camden music service)
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.

Link to the school curriculum for music for each year group online

<https://www.stpatricks.camden.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=531&type=pdf>

Time per week is allocated for curriculum music for each key stage and term (or each half-term) of the academic year

Music lessons are taught by a specialist music teacher weekly:

KS1: 45 minutes

KS2: 45 minutes

How we are increasing access for disabled pupils and supporting pupils with special educational needs (SEND)

Within each lesson, teachers use their professional judgement to help those children with SEND access the curriculum and also achieve the end points. This may be greater scaffolding or access to adapted resources.

Curriculum guidance informing the music curriculum

Our school uses the non-statutory framework of the National Curriculum Model Music Curriculum 2021 (MMC) as the basis for its curriculum planning.

The MMC sets out sequences of learning in the following key areas which when taken together, all contribute towards the steadily increasing development of musicianship:

- Singing
- Listening
- Composing

- Performing/Instrumental Performance

Utilising the non-statutory framework of the MMC as the basis for curriculum planning and building on the National Curriculum for Music, our school curriculum has been developed using the Oak Academy primary music curriculum.

Brief summary of the opportunities pupils have to learn to sing or play an instrument during lesson time

Singing

For our school, musical learning begins with the voice and our teaching focuses on developing the children's ability to sing in tune and with other people with increasing levels of challenge and complexity. Throughout our curriculum pupils develop their musicianship through whole class and group singing activities in all year groups.

For example:

- Year 1: changing the pitch of our singing voices
- Year 2: learning how to sing using tempo and dynamics
- Year 3: learning how to sing using vocal ostinato
- Year 4: learning how to sing with improvised responses
- Year 5: learning to sing melodies and improvised tunes
- Year 6: learning about harmony and to sing in canon

Playing instruments

All classes have opportunities to play tuned and untuned instruments as they progress throughout the school.

For example:

- Year 1: playing basic rhythm responses on untuned instruments e.g. drums
- Year 2: using drones as an accompaniment, playing a basic rhythmic pattern on drums and keeping steady tempo
- Year 3: exploring high and low sounds using instruments
- Year 4: using instruments to improvise and create Samba breaks, layering rhythms using a drum kit, playing pitched and non-pitched percussion
- Year 5: playing a melody on a xylophone using the C major scale, performing an ostinato piece using percussion, playing bass and tone ostinato patterns on a djembe drum
- Year 6: layering and performing syncopated rhythms to create a three part texture using body Percussion

The Wider Opportunities Scheme is a government-initiated scheme designed to meet the pledge set out in the Music Manifesto that over time, every KS2 child should have the chance to learn a musical instrument. Wider Opportunities projects achieve this through whole classes learning instruments and playing together as a group. This scheme means that every child in Year 4 has the chance to learn an instrument. Year 4 children have the opportunity to learn to play the guitar and recorder.

Information on partnerships the school has to support curriculum music

The school works in partnership with the Camden Music Service, who provide:

- The Wider Opportunities Scheme for Year 4 children
- The music curriculum for the bi-annual school performance at The Royal Albert Hall (or other Camden venue alternately on the other bi-annual year)
- The opportunity for children to study a musical instrument with peripatetic teachers

Part B: Extra-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.

Part B text

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One-to-one, small-group and large-group tuition for instruments

Children are offered the opportunity to study a musical instrument with peripatetic music teachers, provided by Camden Music Service. These lessons are taught to small groups of children or individually.

Our children choose to learn one of a variety of instruments, such as the recorder, guitar, piano, violin and flute. This is in addition to the normal music teaching of the school, but usually takes place during curriculum time.

Children in Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 have the weekly opportunity to play in the school orchestra / band.

One-to-one, small-group and large-group tuition for voice

We have a school choir which we encourage children in KS2 to join. The choir meets on a weekly basis and, although its primary aim is to enable children to enjoy singing together, it also performs in public on a number of occasions throughout the year. The school choir performs bi-annually at the Royal Albert Hall.

Singing is important in our school and children have many opportunities to sing during class assemblies, church services and in class.

How pupils can make progress in music outside of lesson time

Children in Year 5 take home guitars, so they can practise their instruments at home and make progress in music outside lesson time.

Children who receive peripatetic guitar or piano teaching, have access to the use of loaned keyboards / guitars and / or violin.

Children taking part in the bi-annual Royal Albert Hall choir performance are encouraged to practise their songs at home (and the other Camden Music Festival venue on the alternate bi-annual year).

Weekend, after-school or holiday provision

Our Music Service offers Saturday morning music provision for children who are learning instruments.

Instrument loans

Children in Year 5 taking part in the Wider Opportunities Scheme have free loans of guitars.

What instruments are offered, charging and remissions information, and if the tuition is subsidised or free, including for parents or carers in particular circumstances (e.g. pupil premium eligibility)

The Camden Music Service provides a subsidised rate for musical tuition for pupils with pupil premium eligibility.

The school provides free musical tuition through the Wider Opportunities scheme for Year 5.

How pupils can join choirs or ensembles and from which year groups, charging and remissions information, and if the tuition is subsidised or free, including for parents or carers in particular circumstances (e.g. pupil premium eligibility).

The choir provided by the school is free for all pupils.

The Music Service provides subsidised rates for ensembles, which may take place after school or at weekends.

Where pupils can rehearse or practice individually or in groups

The school has a dedicated music space for choir rehearsal, music lessons, individual music practice and lessons and performances.

Awards pupils can achieve

Children's musical successes are celebrated during our celebration assemblies where certificates are presented to the children in front of the school.

Part C: Musical events and performances

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.

Part C text

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Singing in assembly and church

All children take part in regular singing assemblies, where they build up a bank of songs and hymns they learn throughout their time in our school.

The school takes part in regular church services at the local church and all children learn relevant songs which match the liturgical calendar e.g. Harvest Festival and Christmas.

This is supported by our specialist music teacher.

Concerts and shows

The school has a termly music concert for parents and carers where classes showcase what they have been learning in the music curriculum. All children who are learning an instrument outside lessons also take part in this termly musical concert.

At the end of KS2, Year 6 perform a show, which includes performing songs.

The school performs a Nativity, involving Reception and KS1.

The school choir performs at termly music concerts and other events e.g. the Christmas Carol Service in church.

The school band performs for parents, alongside other Camden schools.

This is supported by our specialist music teacher and Camden Music Service.

Trips to professional concerts

The school choir performs bi-annually at the Royal Albert Hall. This is supported by our specialist music teacher and Camden Music Service. There is another bi-annual performance for the choir in the alternate year in an alternative Camden venue. This is also supported by our specialist music teacher and Camden Music Service.

Charging information, and if events are subsidised or free, including for parents or carers in particular circumstances (e.g. pupil premium eligibility)

All of our music concerts and performances are free for all parents.

In the future

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

The school fully meets the criteria for the following areas of the 7 features of high-quality music provision:

- access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice
- a school choir or vocal ensemble
- a school ensemble, band or group
- space for rehearsals and individual practice
- a termly school performance

Planning for the future

- We will be working towards timetabling of the music curriculum for one hour per week to be in place by September 2026.
- We will be working towards giving all children the opportunity to enjoy live performance at least once a year to be in place by September 2026.

Further information

The Department for Education publishes a [guide for parents and young people](#) on how they can get involved in music in and out of school, and where they can go to for support beyond the school.

Your local [music hub](#) should also have a local plan for music education in place from September 2024 that should include useful information.