

*'St Mary's Catholic Infant and Junior Academies are committed to safeguarding
and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects
all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.'*



ST MARY'S
CATHOLIC INFANT AND JUNIOR ACADEMIES

Music Development Plan

Infants

Designation	Name	Date Approved	Date of Renewal
Executive Headteacher	Mrs Samantha Birchall	Sept 2025	Sept 2026
Chair of Governors	Mrs Vanessa Wells	Sept 2025	Sept 2026

How does your provision ensure every aspiring musician in your school can access the high-quality opportunities they need?

Vision and Intent			
At St. Mary's Catholic Infant Academy, we strive to cultivate a lifelong love of music in our students by fostering a musical atmosphere enriched with diverse, high-quality musical experiences that engage and inspire. Our music curriculum emphasises creativity, curiosity, and excitement, helping children develop self-confidence, self-esteem, and collaborative skills. We aim to build a curriculum centred around musical sound, providing a progressive pathway for every child. Musical opportunities will support students' mental health and offer them a means to express their emotions. Our students will perform, listen critically, sing, improvise, and compose music, gaining an understanding of musical elements as the fundamental building blocks of music.			
What do we include in our provision at St Mary's Catholic Infant Academy?			
In the classroom and beyond the classroom			
	Where are we now?		What will we do next?
Curriculum	High Quality weekly Music lessons	Music Specialist employed by the school through St Helens Music service for 1 morning plus clubs a week. Planning is based on	
	Vocal Provision	30-minute weekly singing during assemblies, which focus on enjoyment and being part of a massed choir rooted in skills development. Singing is used to support developing class ethos and to support learning across the curriculum. During Collective Worship time, children get the opportunity to sing and use their voice to praise.	Including a greater number of songs in different languages

		At school, we sing at times of celebration and massed events, for example, at church, Christmas concerts, Easter, talent shows etc. All staff have access to Charanga resources which helps to develop staff CPD in relation to singing and performance.	
	Listening Curriculum	Across all year groups, a listening curriculum is implemented by class teachers to expose children to a wide range of genres, historical periods, music from different places and different instrumental sounds through the use of Charanga. Listening to music features in variety of ways, not only in Music lessons but also, for example, during morning tasks, creative writing, RE, Shared Reading and PE. Pupils get a chance to comment and discuss pieces of music in a variety of subjects.	Continue to decolonise and ensure equal balance between male/female and diverse range of composers/musicians
	Performance opportunities	Music outcomes are often shared and performed either live to parents, SLT, and other pupils or recorded and shared with families via 'X' and the school website. For example, our ukulele concerts are performed to pupils, staff and parents, Christmas concerts are performed to pupils and staff. Music/Drama performances –Christmas Carols and assemblies to parents, pupils, and staff. Brass concerts for parents, pupils and staff, Year 2.	Share music outcomes with Governors as part of whole school tracking in foundation subjects.

		Christmas, Easter and End of Year and Year 2 Leavers production. All children have the opportunity to take part in a talent concert, local performances (such as a Newton-Le-Willows has Talent with BFY) or other topical events. Throughout the year, classes have the opportunity to showcase their performance skills in Church, particularly at Christmas and Easter.	
	Music Resources	Ukulele musical instrument tuition in year 2 through ST Helens Music Service. High quality instruments (tuned and untuned) are available with names and images to support knowledge for children and staff.	Create displays to support learning – clear elements board with appropriate language, skills board to identify learning for session, rhythm display with school terminology, staff notation with pitch names and graphic notation ideas.
	Communicating with parents	Music at St Mary's Catholic Infant and Junior Academies on school website sets out Intent, implementation and impact and curriculum coverage. Parents are kept up to date with weekly news by: The Federation of St. Mary's Catholic Schools: Our News items (federationofstmarys.co.uk) Music on website: The Federation of St. Mary's Catholic Schools: Music (federationofstmarys.co.uk) Twitter updates.	Create a Facebook Page to celebrate all curriculum and Academy activities including Music.

		Visits into school to share with learning and learning outcomes.	
	Transition	Junior School Links made again with St Mary's Catholic Junior Academy offering support and continued high quality sequential curriculum. St Mary's Catholic Infant Academy / Nursery use the document Birth to 5 Matters in line with school Early Years planning with a focus on communication, language, physical development, literacy, expressive arts and design.	Transition: plan singing sessions during transition day for Nursery children. Plan Infant and Junior Academy Song Fest.
		Secondary Pass on information about instrumental learners.	Contact secondary schools and discuss transition unit Review Music Curriculum from EYFS – KS1 - KS2 – KS3 with Hope Academy
Co-curricular	Instrumental Learning	Free instrumental group lessons for all children who wish to continue through the Music Service Stage 1. Taught by specialist teachers through St Helens Music Service. Year 2 one-hour group brass instrumental learning with a brass specialist once a week. Performance opportunities –termly concerts.	Continue to signpost ensemble opportunities outside school community
Beyond the classroom	Vocal and Ensemble	After school choir for children. Inclusive and open to all, adult provision offered for any pupils who need 1:1 support.	Review more events outside of school hours that pupils can

		Choir performances at local community events in Newton Le Willows.	become involved in, especially within the local community,
	Progression strategy	Buildup of skills prior to first access instrumental learning. Includes glockenspiel teaching. Includes rhythm notation teaching and beginning of staff notation referring to pitch in preparation for Brass instruments. Instrumental learning inclusive for ALL pupils. Adaptions made where needed for SEND/EAL children. In school ensemble opportunities mapped out as part of provision. Children identified for external groups and parents signposted. Instrumental learning shared with secondary schools.	
Enrichment	Live performances	Cultural capital experienced through: Hearing live music performed through online concerts. Opportunity to perform in a range of venues – for example, church, cathedral and in school. Christmas Service in church Easter service in school and church	

		Continue strong working relationship with St Helens Music Service Music Hub	
	Career Pathways	Continue to identify music careers through learning in classroom and external experiences. Signpost parents to opportunities outside of school	
Leadership	Executive Headteacher Head of School Assistant Headteacher Local Academy Council	Supportive Executive Headteacher and Multi Academy Trust who believe in power and value of music education. Free instrumental provision and music specialist teachers from St Helens Music Service and included in annual budgets by Executive Headteacher and ASMAT.	Identify any other opportunity for Music outside the classroom.
	Subject Leader	Subject leader identified and leading on curriculum development. Access to CPD throughout the year: Independent reading of research and thinking.	Link with ASMAT and ST Margarets Academy on high quality music curriculum and standards.
	Teachers	Supportive teachers who understand and believe in the importance of music. Inquisitive and always ask for support in ensure the best for their pupils.	Continue with CPD training and termly support for all teaching staff. Enhanced Charanga support for none specialist teachers. Links with ASMAT and music specialists.
	Pupils	Pupils who love music, who value enrichment opportunities and love musical learning.	Develop pupil voice and tracking of achievements across the Junior School.

	Communities & Partnership	St Helens Music Service / Hub – very strong working relationship. Take advantage of free opportunities and work together. School community – support musical events. Continue to work closely ASMAT Performances at local community events in Newton-Le-Willows throughout the year.	Find more opportunities to perform within the community, invite community members in to perform to our children. Parents in to support with topics. Continue to signpost external family events to support parents with musical learning.
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Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	Sept 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	Sept 2026
Name of the school music lead	Alex Rigby
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Natalie Martin / Cheryl Tither / Katherine Grange
Name of local music hub	St Helens Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	St Helens Music Service