

Music development plan summary: St John's First School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025-26
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2026
Name of the school music lead	Cluster Lead Sarah Cross
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Michelle Prince
Name of local music hub	Dorset Music Hub
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.

Curriculum intent statement:

- At St John's First School, music develops our pupils' imagination and creativity, we provide opportunities for them to learn through music as well as about it. They develop their understanding of the musical elements and learn how music is structured by listening to music from different cultures and eras. They learn to use the technical vocabulary for these elements and as their confidence builds they enjoy the performance and compositional aspects of music.
- There is a whole school curriculum in place which clearly maps progress and skills across the key stages. Additional aspects are embedded into the planning such as whole class instrumental music, school performances and special musical events
- There are regular timetabled curriculum music lessons in all years plus other provision which totals 1 hour per week for all children (can include singing

assemblies etc)

- Our class teachers are experts in adapting our curriculum to meet the needs of children with additional needs and/or disabilities, and these bespoke adaptations ensure that music can be enjoyed by all.
- The Model Music Curriculum inspired our curriculum, which is informed by the non-statutory National Curriculum Guidance.
- Children have the opportunity to sing within lessons and in worship including worship in St John's Church.
- Children have the opportunity to learn, play and hone their skills with the glockenspiel as part of weekly music lessons, but we also have access to class sets of instruments through the Dorset Music service. During 2024-25 Year 3 had Samba drum lessons.
- Class teachers record progress using video/audio recordings or written notes to assess.
- Children have the opportunity to play a musical instrument in the EYFS outdoor area, in Forest School sessions and in lessons.

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.

- We have a sparkle time club for choir and also recorders. This is made up of children from across the school. A different group of children attend this each half term. At the end of the half term, they perform what they have learnt to the rest of the school.

Part C: Musical Performance

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.

- Children have enjoyed sharing their voice with the wider community - when they perform at local retirement homes at Christmas, Easter and during the summer.
- Performing at St John's church during religious celebrations including Harvest, Christingle and Easter.
- Two year groups perform at the Midday Music Box concert at Wimborne Minster every year.
- The whole school performs a nativity play for families which involves a selection of songs.
- Children have observed each others' performances i.e. sparkle club choir, sparkle club recorders, class assemblies, nativities.
- Children have the opportunity to demonstrate their talents - playing the piano during sparkle worship.
- Children sing together every week as part of singing worship.

In the future

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

- Timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 2 This will continue.
- Access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice. This will continue
- We also want to train and upskill teaching staff in their ability and confidence when teaching improvisation and composition, including using staff notation at an age appropriate level.
- Links with Middle School's to show where the children can aspire to be in their musical learning journey.