

Music development plan summary: St Giles' CoE Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 - 2026
Date this summary was published	September 25
Date this summary will be reviewed September 25	September 26
Name of the school music lead	
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Natalie Dowdall
Name of local music hub	Herts Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Music Matters – Kirsty Allman Ward (Curriculum Development)

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 school music curriculum is available to see in the individual class Curriculum Newsletters (for classes 2-4; our National Curriculum classes). From September 2024 we will be using a 2-year cyclical curriculum developed for us in conjunction with Primary Music Matters (Primary Music Matters - Inspiring Music Education | Primary Music Matters). This is a skills based curriculum based on the Model Music Curriculum (model music curriculum (March 2021),) with links to our foundation subject topics where possible. A range of musical skills and genres are taught through the scheme. All pupils in the school are given access to musical opportunities. Where necessary, personal or group adaptations are made. Examples include: pre-teaching, overlearning, adjusting the volume of songs, providing ear defenders to reduce the

amount of sound reaching the ears, consideration to individual songs if the lyrics might cause distress to a specific pupil due e.g. due to bereavement.

In Class 1 (Early Years Foundation Stage), the Statutory Framework is followed which does not stipulate the teaching of discrete music sessions. However, we provide our children with regular opportunities throughout the week to sing rhymes and songs as well as use non-tuned percussion instruments during Child Initiated Learning.

Classes 2 – 4 (our National Curriculum classes) have a 50-minute music lesson each week. These sessions include the use of non-tuned percussion instruments (including Boom Whackers, xylophones, glockenspiels, hand drums, tambourines etc).

Additionally, there is a whole-school singing assembly once a week which teaches a range of traditional and modern hymns and songs and teaches musicality throughout. Class 3 (Lower Key-Stage 2: Year 3 and 4) have a weekly First Access session with a specialist teacher from the Herts Music Service. Each week, both year groups have 30minutes each learning to play the Djembe drums.

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.

Whilst we do not currently have any on-site peripatetic teachers for individual or small group instrumental or voice tuition we promote the services of the Herts Music Service for this. At this time, we also do not have any ensembles, bands, choirs running in the school. An external drama club offer a weekly drama club to interested children. The fee is paid directly by parents to the drama club; currently the school does not subsidise this. The club often involves singing songs as part of work towards an end of term performance. The club is open to all children. The same drama club runs holiday camps during some holidays which are open to all children. Participation is arranged directly between the owner and parents. This is open to pupils in other local primary schools too.

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.

Throughout the school year, the following events happen: Class 1 and 2 participate in a yearly Nativity play in December of each term which includes singing in small and larger groups. Class 3 and 4 participate in a Christmas Carol service in the partnership

church. The school lead the musical components of this. Class 4 do an annual production in the summer term which includes singing in small and larger groups. These are free participate in for all pupils. Singing assembly is held weekly with musical skills taught through new songs and recapping of already known songs. Hymns and songs are used regularly throughout the year, for example, during end of term worships, collective worship assemblies or special events. Each December, the whole school attend a pantomime performed at a local theatre. This exposes the children to seeing music performed on a live stage. The cost of attending is subsidised by the school via a Trust Fund and also the PTA. On alternate years, class 4 participate in the Young Voices concert at the O2 Arena.

In the future

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

- Establish a school choir Play/ production for class 3 each academic year Use of non-tuned percussion instruments used in other opportunities such as plays/ productions.

Further information (optional)

Herts Music Service: Hertfordshire Music Service (hertsmusicservice.org.uk) 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.