Music Development Plan Summary

St John the Baptist R.C. Primary School, Padiham

Academic year 2026–2027

Our mission: "Love One Another"

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026–2027
Date this summary was published	November 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs L. Baird
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Mrs L. Baird, Deputy Headteacher (the music lead is a member of the senior leadership team)
Name of local music hub	Lancashire Music Hub (lead organisation: Lancashire Music Service)
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	None at present

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

Music is taught to every class, from Nursery to Year 6, as an ambitious, practical and inclusive subject. Pupils learn to sing, play, compose, improvise, listen to and appraise music from a wide range of times, styles and cultures.

Time for music

- **Every class** has a timetabled one-hour music lesson each week throughout the school year, in line with the National Plan for Music Education.
- **Reception to Year 6** also take part in a weekly whole-school singing assembly, in addition to their music lesson.
- **Nursery and Reception:** music is part of the Expressive Arts and Design area of learning. Children sing, move to music, explore sounds and play instruments in adult-led activities and through play.

Our curriculum

- We use the **Charanga** music scheme in Nursery, Reception, Years 1, 2, 3 and 6. Our curriculum covers the National Curriculum for music and is informed by the DfE's **Model Music Curriculum** (2021).
- Lessons build pupils' knowledge and skills step by step, including pitch, rhythm, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and notation, with musical vocabulary taught explicitly.

Learning an instrument in lesson time

Through our partnership with **Lancashire Music Service**, pupils in **Year 4 learn the violin** and pupils in **Year 5 learn the guitar** through Whole Class Instrumental Tuition (WCIT). These weekly lessons are taught by a specialist music teacher and replace the Charanga lesson for those year groups. The school pays for the tuition and the instruments, so every child can learn regardless of their family's financial circumstances.

Inclusion

All pupils, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), take part in the same music curriculum. Teachers adapt lessons through modelling, visual prompts, scaffolding, extra rehearsal, adapted instruments or technology and adult support, and work with our SENDCo and families to put reasonable adjustments in place, including for pupils with sensory needs.

Our music curriculum for each year group is on the school website: Music – St John the Baptist R.C. Primary School. Information about how we support pupils with SEND is in our SEND Information Report, also on the school website.

Part B: Co-curricular music

Outside lesson time, pupils have further opportunities to sing, play and make progress in music.

Choirs and groups

- **School Choir (Years 3 to 6):** a weekly after-school club, currently with around 37 members. The choir sings at our concerts, Christmas productions and community events. It is free to join.
- **Recorder Club (Year 2):** every Wednesday lunchtime. All Year 2 pupils are welcome and it is free. Pupils perform at our school concerts.

Instrumental and vocal lessons

Lancashire Music Service offers individual and small-group lessons on a wide range of instruments and voice, paid for directly by parents and carers. Details of the instruments offered and the 2026–27 prices are in the Lancashire Music Service tuition brochure. Some pupils have lessons in school and some have private lessons at home; all are invited to perform at our termly concerts.

Instruments, costs and help

- All instruments for Whole Class Instrumental Tuition in Years 4 and 5 are provided free by the school.
- Lancashire Music Service offers instrument hire for pupils having individual or small-group lessons. Hire is subject to availability, instruments are collected from and returned to the LMS warehouse in Chorley, and hire charges may apply.
- Some financial help is available from Lancashire Music Service for eligible families. Please speak to the school office if cost is a barrier and we will help you find out what support is available.
- The school also has a small number of instruments, mainly guitars, which pupils can use if needed.

Rehearsing and practising

Our choir and recorder club rehearse in school with a member of staff. To keep our youngest pupils safe, children are always supervised during the school day, so we do not have separate practice rooms; we encourage pupils who learn an instrument to practise regularly at home.

Going further

Lancashire Music Hub runs music centres and county ensembles for young musicians across Lancashire. We share music events and opportunities with families through our school newsletter, and more information is on the Lancashire Music Hub website.

Part C: Musical experiences

Music is at the heart of our Catholic life and our community. Parents and carers are warmly invited to our assemblies, Masses, productions and concerts.

Every week

- A whole-school singing assembly (Reception to Year 6).
- Music and singing in class assemblies, collective worship, liturgical celebrations and Masses.

Concerts and shows in 2026–27

- **Termly music concerts – Wednesday 18th November 2026, Wednesday 24th March 2027 and Wednesday 23rd June 2027.** Year 4 (violin), Year 5 (guitar), the choir, the recorder club and any pupil who learns an instrument in school or at home perform for families.
- **Nursery and Reception Christmas production,** performed twice: once for the school and once for parents and carers.
- **Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Christmas production,** involving every pupil, with a separate choir performance. It is performed three times: once for EYFS and staff and twice for parents and carers.
- **St John's Talent Show – Friday 25 June 2027.** An annual event where any pupil can share their talents, including music.
- **Performing Arts Award –** presented in every class from Reception to Year 6 at the end of the year to celebrate talent, effort and commitment. This is presented during Prize Day 8th July 2027

In our community

- In December, our Faith Friends (our Catholic ambassadors in Years 4 and 5) visit a local care home to share Christmas songs with residents.
- The choir sometimes sings carols in the local community at Christmas.

Live music

Last year, Year 4 watched a live pantomime production of Alice in Wonderland at Burnley College, and Year 5 took part in an online ballet workshop. This year we are planning a Lancashire Music Service showcase in school so that pupils can see and hear professional musicians perform live.

Costs

Our concerts, productions and community performances are free for pupils to take part in. Trips are funded by a voluntary contribution, and no pupil is ever left out of a trip for financial reasons.

In the future

These are the improvements we plan to make during 2026–27 and beyond.

> **1. Live music for every pupil**
> Arrange a Lancashire Music Service showcase in school, and build in at least one live professional performance for every pupil each year, through visiting musicians, workshops or trips.

When: Showcase during 2026–27; yearly from 2027–28

2. More ways to keep playing

Encourage more pupils to continue an instrument after Whole Class Instrumental Tuition, with particular support for disadvantaged pupils, and explore starting a school instrumental group so that pupils have an ensemble to join alongside the choir.

When: Spring and summer terms 2027

3. Strong musical foundations in the early years

Strengthen singing, rhythm and listening in Reception and Key Stage 1, so that more pupils reach the expected standard by the end of Year 2.

When: Throughout 2026–27

4. Assessing and celebrating progress

Develop a clear way of assessing pupils' progress in music, including recordings of performances and compositions (in line with our safeguarding and photo consent arrangements), and gather pupils' views about music.

When: Throughout 2026–27

5. Getting ready for the new national curriculum

Review our music curriculum against the revised national curriculum for music when it is published, ready for first teaching from September 2028.

When: 2027–28

Further information

- Our music curriculum: St John the Baptist music page
- Support for pupils with SEND: SEND Information Report and Local Offer
- Lancashire Music Hub: www.lancashiremusichub.co.uk
- Lancashire Music Service tuition and prices 2026–27: LMS tuition brochure
- The Department for Education's guide for parents and young people: Music education: information for parents and young people

Our Music Policy sets out in more detail how music is taught, assessed and led at our school. For any questions about music, please contact the school office or Mrs L. Baird, Music Lead. School website: www.st-john.lancs.sch.uk