

Music development plan summary: St Katherine's school and Nursery

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Mrs L Allen
Name of local music hub	Kent Music

This is a summary of how St Katherine's Primary 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.

Through our vision for music at St Katherine's, we aspire to create a vibrant and inclusive musical environment where every child can develop a lifelong love and appreciation for music. We aim to cultivate confident, creative and culturally aware individuals who use music as a means of expression, communication and joy.

Access for all

We believe music education should be accessible to every child, regardless of background, ability or interest. All pupils have the right to experience and engage with music in meaningful ways. We provide a diverse range of musical opportunities that cater to different learning styles and preferences.

Progressive Curriculum

We aim to provide a comprehensive music curriculum that integrates various aspects of music, including singing, playing instruments, listening, composing, and music appreciation.

Our curriculum follows the Model Music Curriculum and integrates singing, instrumental work, listening, composing and music appreciation.

To support this, we use:

- Charanga
- Oak National Academy

Our curriculum encourages pupils to explore a wide range of musical genres, traditions and cultures, fostering an appreciation for music from around the world.

Music has been delivered during PPA sessions by a specialist teacher, ensuring pupils benefit from high-quality, expert-led instruction. This provision is scheduled to resume towards the end of the year, and in the interim, class teachers will deliver the carefully mapped-out music curriculum to maintain continuity and secure progression in learning.

Dedicated Weekly Music Time

All pupils receive a minimum of one hour of dedicated music time per week, made up of:

- A 45-minute music lesson
- A 15-minute singing assembly

Instrumental Learning

- Year 4 receive whole class ukulele teaching from a peripatetic teacher from Make Time for Music.
- Pupils can also access Kent Music School tuition, with opportunities to learn woodwind or brass instruments.
- Children may hire instruments and take them home to practise and develop their skills.

Active Engagement in Music

We believe in active engagement with music. Our vision emphasises hands-on experiences, practical activities, and active participation. We emphasise hands-on, practical experiences. Pupils engage actively through:

- Singing
- Playing instruments
- Movement
- Ensemble work

We create a supportive and interactive environment where students can express themselves freely and confidently. Our dedicated music room helps to facilitate this, providing a space designed for practical, creative musical learning.

Children also have access to extra-curricular musical clubs and, if they wish, tuition from our Kent Music School teacher, giving them the opportunity to learn a woodwind or brass instrument. We have also strengthened our link with Kent Music by using a specialist teacher to deliver whole-class ukulele teaching in one year group.

Staff Development

Staff have access to the Kent Music Hub and can make use of CPD opportunities provided by them.

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.

Inclusive Ensemble Opportunities

We believe in the power of ensemble music-making. Our vision includes providing inclusive opportunities, such as a school choir, where students can develop teamwork, cooperation and a sense of belonging. We strive to create an environment where pupils of all abilities and backgrounds can come together to create music collectively.

Instrument Tuition Through Kent Music School

At St Katherine's, children have the opportunity to take up lessons provided by Kent Music School. Pupils can access:

- Individual tuition
- Paired lessons
- Small-group tuition

These lessons cover a range of brass and woodwind instruments. Children can hire the instrument they are learning and take it home to practise and further develop their skills.

School Choir (Non-Auditioned & Free)

We provide a mixed-age choir that is:

- Non-auditioned
- Open to all pupils
- Free of charge

The choir is run by the Music Lead and offers children a welcoming, inclusive space to enjoy singing together.

Seasonal and Community Performances

All children in KS2 learn a range of Christmas carols. They practise these within class assemblies and then perform together at the church.

Children in KS1 use their music skills to perform a nativity, and our Foundation Stage and Nursery also put on a musical experience for parents. All children take part, with opportunities for solo and duet performances.

Our KS2 production provides further opportunities for singing and performing. These productions are shared not only with the school community but also with the wider local community.

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.

Community Engagement:

We believe strongly in the importance of community engagement in music. Our vision includes fostering partnerships with local musicians, artists and cultural organisations to enhance pupils' musical experiences. We aim to provide opportunities for students to perform in community events, collaborate with professional musicians and contribute to the cultural life of their community.

Singing as a Core Experience

Singing is a major part of our community engagement. Children take part in weekly singing assemblies and have opportunities to use the songs they learn at wider events. Previous examples include:

- Our trust athletics tournament
- The Dance Through the Musicals event
- Talent Shows
- Christmas choirs in public arenas e.g. the loco Tesco superstore

These occasions give pupils valuable performance experience in front of different audiences.

Christmas Community Activities

During the Christmas period, singing plays a central role in our school's community involvement:

- The school choir performs at the school gates to welcome parents and children.
- Year R visit a local care home to perform songs they have learnt.
- Pupils also have the opportunity to be audience members at a Christmas production performed by CRIBS.

Young Voices at the O2 Arena

The choir has the opportunity to perform at the O2 Arena as part of the Young Voices concert. This gives children the chance to:

- Perform to a large audience
- Experience live performances from classical musicians and artists across a range of genres
- Take part in a major national musical event

This is a highlight of the school's musical calendar and a memorable experience for all involved.

In the future

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

Strengthening Links with Secondary Schools

We will continue to develop our links with local secondary schools. This will give our pupils opportunities to watch performances featuring a wide range of instruments, both in solo and ensemble pieces. These experiences will help broaden children's understanding of musical progression beyond primary school.

Expanding Multi-Cultural Musical Experiences

We will further promote multi-cultural access to musical experiences. In the past, pupils have enjoyed sessions such as African drumming, and we plan to build on this by embedding more multi-cultural musical opportunities within our curriculum coverage.

Increasing Access to Live Music

- We will continue to develop opportunities for children to:
- Watch live music events
- Perform in front of a variety of audiences
- Experience music in professional and community settings

These experiences help build confidence, cultural awareness and a love of performance.

Enhancing Extra-Curricular Opportunities

We aim to expand the range of extra-curricular musical opportunities available to pupils, ensuring that children of all ages and abilities can participate, explore new instruments and develop their musical interests further.

Further information (optional)

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