



MUSIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN SUMMARY: Saints Peter and Paul Catholic High School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2023/24
Date this summary was published	15 th July 2024
Date this summary will be reviewed	1 st July 2025
Name of the school music lead	Michelle Saunders
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Michelle Saunders
Name of local music hub	Accent Music Education 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.

At Saints Peter and Paul, we see Music as a universal language which translates across the world. Our Music curriculum will foster creativity, experimentation, resilience whilst building confidence and supporting the well-being of all students. Music nurtures the individual and builds a mastery of teamwork and leadership. Through engagement students discover a love and tolerance of the wider world supported with a sound knowledge of the social commentary and context of music over time. 'You know what music is? God's little reminder that there is something else besides us in this universe. Harmonic connection between all living beings, everywhere, even the stars' (Robin Williams)

The aims of our music curriculum at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic High School:

Music is a valuable subject for all, whether you are a gifted musician or have never engaged in music. Music's place in education has important wider benefits on personal and social development building your confidence, self-esteem, sense of achievement and ability to relate to others. The study of Music is important becomes Music is an important component of our human experience. Whether singing, playing, or listening, the study of Music helps you listen

and hear in new ways. Music is an international and universal language which pervades our daily lives. Although we do not share the same traditions, tastes or values, music is present and has value in everybody's life. Music offers many things to everyone at varying levels, as does a music education. Music plays an important role in school life both inside and outside of lessons and allows all students to develop a wide range of skills and offers opportunities to enjoy live music experiences and participate in music making within a range of genres.

The rationale behind our music curriculum design:

The Music curriculum has been created to offer our students a range of musical experiences. By studying Music in school students are provided with a safe environment to explore and develop their creativity and expressive freedom, to cultivate musical skills and understand how musical experiences can benefit them personally.

By following the national curriculum for music and referencing the model music curriculum at Saints Peter and Paul we aim to ensure that all pupils:

- Perform, listen to, review and evaluate music across a range of historical periods, genres, styles and traditions, including the works of the great composers and musicians.
- Learn to sing and to use their voices, to create and compose music on their own and with others, have the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, use technology appropriately and have the opportunity to progress to the next level of musical excellence.
- Understand and explore how music is created, produced and communicated, including through the inter-related dimensions: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure and appropriate musical notations.

The Music curriculum and OCHL at our school is designed to nurture the skills and knowledge required to foster these beliefs with our students and ignite their creativity. Music lessons and extra-curricular activities provides students with the opportunity to experience music through Performing, Composing and Listening learning activities. By enabling our students to access and study a range of music over a range of cultures, historical context, and styles, they can become musicians who have an appreciation for, and an awareness of musical and cultural conventions. Our students are provided with opportunities to participate in and showcase their talents at a range of events across the academic year and are supported to grow as musicians, as well as balanced individuals, through the study of Music. Music aims to build students' confidence in themselves; to be responsible and care for equipment and their environment; to respect others as they work and collaborate; and show respect when performing to their peers, allowing everyone to do their best. Students who are involved in the wider curriculum and opportunities past the classroom will also have the opportunity to be Bronze, Silver and Gold Music leaders.

You can view our curriculum overview here: [Saints Peter and Paul Music Curriculum Overview 2024 - 2025](#)

Curriculum Features:

- Timetabled curriculum music of at least one hour each week of the school year for key stages 1 to 3.
- 5 timetabled lessons per fortnight at key stage 4.
- Access to whole class lessons using keyboards, djembe drums, drum kit, guitar, DJ decks and DAW production software for composition.

- Access to lessons across a range of instruments, and voice through our peripatetic options.
- School choir with weekly rehearsals.
- School ensemble (production band and house band) with a weekly rehearsal.
- Percussion ensemble (Samba band) with a weekly rehearsal.
- 2 designated music classrooms fully equipped alongside 4 individual rehearsal spaces and use of the school hall for larger scale rehearsals and events.
- a termly school performance

Instrumental Opportunities:

- Peripatetic lessons available to all students for drum kit, voice, piano, brass (trumpet, trombone), woodwind (flute, clarinet, alto saxophone) guitar and bass with one of our 7 peripatetic tutors.

Potential Qualifications:

- Bronze Arts Award: Trinity College (Year 9 Curriculum)
- Eduqas GCSE Music (KS4 option students)
- LCM Vocal Examinations.
- ABRSM examinations for woodwind.

Curriculum Support Links:

- [Teaching music in schools - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
- [National curriculum in England: music programmes of study - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)
- Accent Music Education Hub (which will soon merge with Resonate Liverpool)

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.

At Saints Peter and Paul Catholic High school we offer additional peripatetic tuition either in small group, pairs or individually. Students can have lessons in the following instruments: drum kit, voice, piano, brass (trumpet, trombone, euphonium, French horn), woodwind (flute, clarinet, alto saxophone, tenor saxophone) guitar and bass with one of our 7 peripatetic tutors.

The cost of these instrumental lessons is subsidised by the school meaning more students can access this. The fee currently stands at £30 per half term (6 lessons per half term). Students eligible for pupil premium can also be further subsidised to support those families following a discussion with the music department. Fees are paid via the Parent Pay app.

These lessons take place during the school day on a rotated timetable and last for 30 minutes. We facilitate the loan of musical instruments where required and do access our music hub for support with additional instrumentation for students.

Any student taking peripatetic lessons also has the opportunity to complete graded examinations at different points of the academic year.

In addition to our peripatetic offer, we also run a programme of extra-curricular activities after the school day. Each of these ensembles are free to students and are not restricted on any basis. Rehearsals are weekly for one hour.

- Monday – Choir
- Tuesday – Production band (until the show), house band for the remainder of the year.
- Thursday – Samba Band.

Additional rehearsals are added into the calendar when we are close performances.

Many of our students who attend band also attend the Accent Music Education Hub ensembles which are organised and hosted by the hub.

Our practice rooms are available before school, break, lunch and after school for individual and small group rehearsals. Students often choose this facility to rehearse.

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.

Our school has a wide programme of performance opportunities for our musicians which is spread over the academic year. Again, these are open to all of our students.

Large Scale Events:

- School Production (We Will Rock You planned for December 2024).
- Annual Spring Concert – in partnership with 10 of our local primary schools.
- UK Schools Music Festival (Samba band achieved a silver award this academic year).

Ensemble/solo performance opportunities:

- School open evenings.
- School presentation evenings.
- Mass (at various points throughout the academic year)
- Performances in the local community (Widnes Nursing homes and community centres).
- Hub Concerts – soloists represent school.
- School assemblies.
- Gigcraft – workshops and sessions organised by Priestley College Warrington and Spirit Studios Manchester publicised by Accent Music Education Hub.

Samba Band Performances:

- Hale Carnival (booked to perform every year)
- Widnes Vikings RLFC pre match and half time performances.

Trips:

- This year music students have had the opportunity to join with the drama department and attend their residential trip to London to watch Tina: The Musical and Mamma Mia.

In the future

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

Great strides have been made to plan for the use of music technology in the forthcoming academic years with funding sourced to secure a class set of DJ decks will be used with year 9.

The purchase and use of electronic drum kits at the start of the 2023 academic year has allowed us to offer a broader range of musical instruments within class time and the department plans to continue to embed the use of these in forthcoming years.

The 2024 year will also see us add a woodwind ensemble to our extra-curricular programme, alongside the additional of peripatetic tuition in a broader range of instruments as this is required with potential to have students learning tenor saxophone, French horn, baritone and euphonium.

Following a break in live performance (due to Covid) we would like to reintroduce trips that will support the GCSE curriculum, including the Hub supported visit to the Bridgewater Hall with the Halle Orchestra. We would also like to source a yearly event that would be engaging for our KS3 students to attend and broaden their experience of music.

- ABRSM examinations for woodwind and brass.
- Becoming a centre for RSL examinations allowing our students to take examinations for keyboard, drum kit, guitar and bass within our school.
- The preparation and sitting of theory examinations to extend and support knowledge from the curriculum.
- Singing in assembly planned for next year to accompany the class singing planned into the year 7 curriculum which we plan to roll out into other year groups once student confidence and resilience has been developed.
- Choir will prepare for and enter the archdiocesan choir competition in 2025.
- To continue our community outreach with performances at our local nursing homes at Christmas, Hale Carnival and other functions and events upon request.

Further information

How music reflects the aspects of our whole school 'Mission, Vision and Values':

Music education is widely considered to promote and nurture many desirable traits and life skills that young people need to develop to become positive, contributing members of society, leaders, and creative thinkers. Beyond the fundamental value of music to cultures worldwide, music education has been proven to equip students with essential abilities to learn skills, enhance academic success and develop superior working memory. All of which transfer across all other subject areas by improving ability to recall and retain verbal information and enhancing thinking skills. Also allowing students to develop capacities, skills and knowledge that is essential for lifelong success, such as fostering resilience, perseverance, creativity, confidence, self-esteem, and an ability to communicate in different ways. Our passionate musicians are able develop and prepare to pursue careers further study in Music in careers in the Arts.

The Music curriculum and OCHL at our school is designed to nurture the skills and knowledge required to foster these beliefs with our students and ignite their creativity. Music lessons and

extra-curricular activities provides students with the opportunity to experience music through Performing, Composing and Listening based learning activities. By enabling our students to access and study a range of music over a range of cultures, historical context, and styles, they can become musicians who have an appreciation for, and an awareness of musical and cultural conventions. Our students are provided with opportunities to participate in and showcase their talents at a range of events across the academic year and are supported to grow as musicians, as well as balanced individuals, through the study of Music. Music aims to build students' confidence in themselves; to be responsible and care for equipment and their environment; to respect others as they work and collaborate; and show respect when performing to their peers, allowing everyone to do their best.

As a school we believe in, and promote, traditional British values of respect for all and freedom for the individual, an understanding and celebration of diverse culture and religious beliefs and opportunity to make the most of individual students' talents.

Further information:

- 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.
- Music Education Hubs including contact details for Accent Music Education Hub: [Music Education Hubs | Arts Council England](#)
- [Accent Music Education Hub - Cultivate Halton](#)
- [Accent Music Hub | warrington.gov.uk](#)