Music Development Plan Summary: St. Paul's Church of England Primary School

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	October 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Rhian Presdee
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Liz Millidge (Deputy Headteacher)
Name of local music hub	Heart of England Music (the music hub for Coventry, Solihull and Warwickshire)
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Justin Parsons (specialist music teacher); Bob (peripatetic drum teacher)

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 St. Paul's we believe that musical talent, awareness and appreciation should be nurtured. Children should be exposed to music in all its forms and have opportunities to explore music so they can realise their musical potential. In accordance with the National Curriculum for music, we aim to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to 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.

We plan opportunities for our children to 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.

We create opportunities for our children to 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.

At St. Paul's CofE Primary School, music is taught in class every week and follows the Kapow Primary scheme of work, which is sequenced to build knowledge and skills progressively from EYFS through Key Stage One and Key Stage Two in line with the National Curriculum. Lessons are a minimum of 40 minutes.

We are fortunate to have a specialist music teacher, Mr Justin Parsons, who works in school two days a week. Alongside class teachers, he teaches music lessons across the school throughout the year, bringing specialist subject knowledge to pupils and modelling high-quality music teaching for staff.

Music sessions include work around developing an awareness of rhythm and beat. Children learn notation and are able to read simple music. They are taught musical terms and are expected to use these in discussing music they are reading and playing/singing. Children sing songs and have opportunities to refine and perform music to a wider audience of their peers and/or parents.

We use QR codes to capture pupils' performances and compositions, helping teachers to assess pupils' progress in music over time.

Pupils in The Orchard, our specialist resource provision for children with communication and interaction needs, receive music teaching from our specialist music teacher. Sessions are adapted to pupils' individual needs, using music to support communication, interaction and self-expression, so that every child can take part in and enjoy music. Pupils in The Orchard also have opportunities to make music and perform alongside their mainstream peers.

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 St Paul's Primary School, music is encouraged and promoted beyond the curriculum. Children can learn an instrument through peripatetic lessons in school, individually or in small groups, so that they can make progress over time:

- Guitar and keyboard – taught by our specialist music teacher, Mr Justin Parsons, on the mornings he is in school
- Drums – taught by our visiting peripatetic drum teacher, Mr Bob Wyer.

These lessons give children experience of learning an instrument and making music, and pupils have opportunities to perform what they have learned to their peers and parents.

The number of pupils learning an instrument has increased, and we have made sure that disadvantaged pupils and pupils with SEND are able to take part.

Our weekly singing assemblies offer the opportunity for children to experience singing within a mixed-age environment; this enables us to give experience of unison singing, part-singing and vocal harmony.

There are regular performing opportunities for our children; these range from in-class 'mini concerts' to instrumental ensemble concerts attended by parents.

Music also plays an important part in a range of multi-cultural events throughout the year, when our children have the opportunity to both experience music performance and participate using instruments from a range of cultures.

We have a thriving Key Stage 2 Choir who perform at concerts throughout the year, in school and in the wider community. The school choir practises in the school hall weekly. We have extended our links with the wider community, so our pupils now have more opportunities to perform beyond the school gates and share their music with local audiences.

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.

St. Paul's CofE Primary School provides a variety of musical experiences for its pupils throughout the academic year. These include:

- The choir performing at the Church Christingle Service, Church Summer Fayre, Young Voices, Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital and our Party on the Playground
- All children from Nursery to Year 2 perform at Christmas
- Choir patriated in the Nuneaton Festival of Arts 2026 and achieved first place
- All Key Stage Two classes performing twice a year at church in a class worship
- Steel pans workshop
- Year 2 and 3 Spring Sing
- Live band at the Year 6 Leavers' Party
- Year 6 musical performance
- Pupils learning with our specialist music teacher performing to peers and parents

Music now has a high profile across St. Paul's and in our local community. It is a visible and valued part of school life, from collective worship and assemblies to concerts and community events, and pupils' musical achievements are celebrated with families and the wider school community.

In the future

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

Since our last summary, we have moved to the Kapow Primary scheme of work, appointed a specialist music teacher, increased the number of pupils learning an instrument, developed music in The Orchard, introduced QR codes for assessment, raised the profile of music within school and extended our work with the wider community. Building on this, St. Paul's CofE Primary School plans to:

- embed the Kapow scheme consistently across all year groups, with clear assessment of pupils' progress
- use our specialist music teacher to develop a professional development programme that builds all teaching staff's confidence and skills in delivering high-quality music education
- apply for grant funding to further develop music provision across the school
- strengthen our links with Heart of England Music, our local music hub
- collaborate with a local primary school for joint performances