

Music development plan summary: [St Michael's Catholic Primary] Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026 -2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of the school music lead	Helen Boardman
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Resonate Music
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.

Our school uses the National Curriculum descriptors for music as the basis for its curriculum planning. We have adapted the national scheme so that the topics that the children study in music build upon prior learning and link to our school curriculum. The teaching of curriculum music is supported by high quality resources including Charanga and Sparkyard.

- Music is taught for up to one hour per week from Early Years to Year 6.
- Music is taught through Sparkyard which is informed by the [model music curriculum](#) (March 2021), non-statutory guidance for teaching music from Key Stages 1 to 3. Through this curriculum, pupils have regular opportunities to learn to sing or play an instrument during lesson time, such as through whole-class ensemble teaching.
- In Year 1 all children annually have enhanced music provision for ten weeks through weekly Music and Movement classes.
- Music is enhanced annually in lower key stage 2 by performing at the high school and through attending orchestral concerts at the Liverpool Philharmonic Hall.
- Children to listen to a wide range of music within their classroom environment, using suggestions from Sparkyard and other pieces chosen specifically for collective worship, writing time, stay and play events or class celebrations.
- Access for pupils with SEND is supported through school inclusion.
- Whole school singing is taught weekly for 20 minutes. During this time the children learn new songs often themed around the time of year alongside traditional songs and hymns which are included to enhance celebrations in school.

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.

In addition to the delivery of the Music curriculum, St. Michael's offers a range of extracurricular opportunities.

Children within KS2 can join the school choir, led by the music lead. Choir rehearsals take place after school throughout the year. The children can sing at various events including performances at the local high school, carol singing within the community and at massed choral events e.g. Young Voices.

In the Summer term, KS1 have their own vocal ensemble festival singing learning a range of themed songs which they then perform with others as a massed choir.

All children are offered the opportunity to join the Widnes Catholic Primary Schools choir rehearsing outside of school hours with other children in the parish.

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 year, all classes lead a whole school assembly linked to an RE theme. Within this assembly all children perform and sing several songs and hymns linked to their topic.

Every half term, the music lead organises singing assemblies for both KS1 and 2.

Year 4 had guitar tuition for a whole year and performed for parents at an end of year concert.

Autumn Term:

Children in KS2 will take part and perform in the annual Christmas Carol Service providing an opportunity for the whole of KS2 to join and create a large ensemble celebrating advent.

The school choir club will have opportunities to strengthen links within the community by performing locally e.g. carol singing in care homes, supermarkets, Christmas Fayre at Runcorn Town Hall.

Spring Term:

Children in Year 3 or 4 attend the school's concert at The Liverpool Philharmonic Hall.

In KS2, children will take part in the annual Spring celebration concert at St. Peter and Paul's Catholic College in March, alongside a few local primary schools in the area.

Summer Term:

Children take part singing in large services at the Cathedral such as the Good Shepherd Mass.

Year 5 children to learn African or Samba drumming (provider dependent).

In July, KS1 children take part in the annual Children of Halton Infant Music Festival at Wade Deacon. This enables the children to take part in a large vocal ensemble alongside a few schools within the local area.

Year 5 hold a Samba drumming performance for the school following their class tuition.
Y6 perform in their annual leavers play at the end of the school year learning and singing many songs for this performance e.g. these were based on High School Musical in 2025.

In the future

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

- Increase staff confidence through use of Sparkyard resources.
- Introduce additional instrument tuition e.g. the teaching of the recorder and establish an after-school recorder group.
- Include class performances each term during assemblies showcasing musical learning from each class.
- Continue with ongoing staff CPD with the focus specifically on improving the teaching of composition skills.

Further information (optional)

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.