

St Anne's RC Primary

Mission Statement

'To live happily, love unconditionally and learn enthusiastically with Jesus by our side.'

Music Policy

Date reviewed	June 2026

Date presented to Governors	
Date to be reviewed	June 2027

St Anne's Primary School

Music inspires, allows personal expression and plays an important part in the society we live in. At St Anne's it is highly valued, not only because of the skills it can allow children to develop - but also due to the enjoyment that every child can gain from the subject. The National Curriculum states: **"Music is a universal language that embodies one of the highest forms of creativity"** (2014) and with this in mind, children are given opportunities to be actively involved in listening and appraising, composing and performing, to develop their understanding and enjoyment of the subject.

1. Intent

At St. Anne's Primary School, we believe that Music gives children key opportunities to: create, play, perform and provides pupils with an important understanding of the musical and creative world. We want all children to develop a love of music and develop their skills as musicians to increase their self-confidence and sense of achievement. Music, as well as being a creative activity, is also a highly academic and demanding subject and we encourage children to develop skills to appreciate a wide variety of musical forms, and to begin to make judgements about the quality of music.

At St Anne's we intend to:

- Develop the interrelated skills of composition, performance, listening and appraising;

- Provide **all** children with an opportunity to learn a musical instrument;
- Teach children to explore how sounds are created, and can be organised into musical structures;
- Show how music is produced by a variety of instruments;
- Teach how music is composed and written down;
- Evaluate the relevance of when, where and why a given piece of music was written.

2. Implementation

At St Anne's, music plays a vital role in school life. We are committed to providing all pupils with a broad and enriching range of musical experiences that foster confidence, creativity, and a deeper understanding of music.

Music teaching at St Anne's is centred around three key areas: listening, composing, and performing. Pupils are taught to listen attentively to and evaluate a wide variety of musical works, including their own compositions, in order to develop critical and reflective skills. These evaluative skills are also applied to singing, which forms an integral part of our music curriculum. Through singing, pupils learn to perform accurately in tune and collaboratively with others, while also developing an understanding of musical structure and organisation.

As pupils progress through the school, they are introduced to increasingly complex and extended pieces of music, enabling them to deepen their analytical and evaluative abilities. They begin to explore traditional methods of composition and are taught to create their own musical pieces using imagery, graphic notation, and conventional musical notation. Pupils compose using both tuned and untuned instruments and frequently collaborate with their peers to create and perform original works.

Performance is an important aspect of musical development at St Anne's. Pupils are encouraged to develop their confidence and presentation skills through solo and ensemble performances in a variety of settings,

including classrooms, assemblies, and church services. They are also taught to evaluate the performances of others constructively, offering thoughtful feedback and identifying opportunities for improvement.

At St Anne's, we are committed to nurturing the musical potential of every child and ensuring that all pupils have access to appropriate and engaging learning opportunities, regardless of their ability or experience.

We achieve this through:

- Providing all pupils with access to specialist music teaching;
- Designing open-ended tasks that encourage creativity and allow for a range of responses;
- Offering activities with increasing levels of challenge, enabling pupils to progress at an appropriate pace;
- Differentiating learning through flexible grouping and tailored tasks;
- Providing resources that are appropriately matched to pupils' individual needs and abilities;
- Utilising teaching assistants to support individuals and groups where required;
- Offering specialist support and opportunities for pupils who demonstrate particular musical gifts or talents.

Additional music teaching

Children in Key Stage 2 receive a weekly lesson from specialist peripatetic teachers and pupils in KS1 have music lessons from their class teachers. From Year 1 to Year 6, all children have lessons in Glockenspiel, Year 3 and 4 have lessons in recorders and Year 5 and 6 also have lessons in keyboards. Peripatetic music teaching is organised by the school through an independent company called Musical Mates. This weekly specialist teaching allows the children to experience learning a musical instrument and to develop their reading of notation and performance skills. It is a great way to see the children increase their confidence in the subject. In Years 5 and 6 Keyboard was chosen specifically to prepare children for musical tuition in secondary school, as this is the instrument taught in Year 7. Keyboard is also frequently the chosen instrument at GCSE and

therefore St Anne's wants to prepare children should they wish to continue music at GCSE level.

In addition to this, all children are offered the opportunity to study an additional musical instrument with the peripatetic teachers. Pupil Premium children also have this opportunity and are supported by school. Parents and carers who want their children to participate in the scheme are offered the use of an instrument or they may purchase the instrument and pay the additional music lesson fees on a termly basis. These lessons are normally taught to small groups of children who have chosen to learn one of a variety of instruments, such as the guitar, violin, keyboard and drums. This is in addition to the normal music teaching of the school, and usually takes place during normal lessons, from which children are withdrawn for the duration of the instrumental lesson.

To further enrich our music provision, St Anne's works in partnership with Rocksteady Music School, providing pupils with the opportunity to learn and perform as part of a band. Children can choose to play acoustic guitar, electric guitar, keyboard, drums, or take on the role of lead vocalist. Through weekly sessions, pupils develop their musical skills, confidence, teamwork, and performance abilities while learning a range of contemporary songs. Each term, Rocksteady hosts live concerts, giving pupils the opportunity to showcase their achievements to parents and the wider school community. Parents are also able to track their child's progress, engagement, and accomplishments through the dedicated Rocksteady parent app.

Planning

1. **Long-term planning:** maps out the musical topics studied throughout the year in each year group following the National Curriculum. This planning ensures that previous knowledge is continued throughout the school and children build upon prior skills.

2. **Medium term planning:** completed by the subject coordinator, in conjunction with the music specialists and class teachers. Sometimes, the children study music topics in conjunction with other subjects.

3. **Short-term planning:** Weekly planning. Class teachers ensure that the Music objectives for their year group are covered throughout the year using this. The music curriculum is enhanced by the provision of peripatetic teachers who deliver first class tuition to all of our pupils.

All teachers:

1. 'Know where their children are' through the use of concise summative assessment, prior learning and assessment.

2. 'Understand where their children need to be' through a secure understanding of year group expectations and/or pre key stage expectations and incisive, on-going, formative assessment

3. 'Know how they are going to get them there' through the use of a range of strategies to promote independence and high expectations of ALL.

4. Will use a range of enquiry types

5. Effectively deploy adults, specifically during introductions, plenaries and both planned and immediate interventions

6. Plan for progression during and between lessons.

Assessment

1. Summative/diagnostic - end of unit assessments allows teachers / music teachers to address misconceptions and recap on knowledge taught before moving onto the next topic.

2. Formative / on-going – teachers use questioning to assess pupils regularly and address misconceptions.

Impact

The music curriculum fosters creativity, confidence, and a lifelong appreciation of music. It enables pupils to develop their listening, performing, and composing skills while gaining a secure understanding of musical concepts and traditions. Through a broad range of musical experiences, pupils become reflective and expressive musicians who can evaluate, create, and perform with increasing competence, making meaningful connections between music, culture, and the wider world.