

Music development plan summary St Andrew's Primary School, Yetminster

'Nothing is impossible with God' Luke 1:37

We **LOVE**, **LEARN**, **GROW** and **FLOURISH**

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	14 th July 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	14 th July 2027
Name of the school music lead	Heather Mitchell
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	Anna Hedges
Name of local music hub	Dorset Music Service
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.

At St Andrew's Primary School, we aim for all our pupils to develop a life-long love of music, in a school with a musical atmosphere through a wide range of quality musical experiences which engage and inspire them. At the heart of the music curriculum are creativity, curiosity and excitement and children who are developing increased self-confidence, self-esteem and collaborative skills. We aim to build a curriculum with musical sound at the cornerstone with a progressive pathway for every child. Music opportunities will support children's mental health and allow them time to express their emotions. Children will perform, listen and analyse critically, sing, improvise and compose music and understand the musical elements as building blocks within music.

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 Andrew's, we follow the Charanga Music scheme supported by the Dorset Music Service. [Home – Dorset Music Service \(dorsetmusiconline.co.uk\)](http://dorsetmusiconline.co.uk)
- Charanga's English Model Music Curriculum Scheme is aligned with the National Curriculum for Music and the non-statutory Model Music Curriculum (MMC) Guidance published by the DfE in 2021.
- This Scheme provides clearly-sequenced units and lessons with week-by-week support for each year group. There are lesson plans, assessment documentation, a clear learning progression, as well as engaging and exciting songs and resources to support every lesson. Key Learning and Outcomes with 'I Can' statements are provided to be used alongside assessment grids.
- Our Scheme follows a spiral approach to musical learning, with children revisiting, building and extending their knowledge and skills incrementally. In this manner, their learning is consolidated and augmented, increasing musical confidence and enabling them to go further. Teachers can adapt their teaching to respond to the strengths and needs of the children they teach.
- Our MMC Scheme is suitable for children aged 5–11, with six self-sufficient units per year. Each unit is structured into six steps which can be covered as you see fit, though a pace of one step per weekly lesson may suit the pace of your academic year well. The first step of each unit introduces that unit's focus in terms of content, skills and knowledge; the middle steps then develop this, and the final, sixth step assesses the learning through exciting performances and activities.
- At the centre of each step – each lesson – is a song around which the musical learning is centred. Each lesson has an easy-to-follow structure complemented by an array of supporting documents, lesson plans and resources that take you through listening, singing, performing, composing and improvising exercises with the children in your class.
- Children have the opportunity to sing and play instruments in their music lessons. This is planned in systematically throughout the Charanga scheme.

- In Early Years music is delivered through holistic practice as an integral part of early development and that musical development matters. Music is planned for across the four musical areas: Hearing & Listening, Vocalising & Singing, Moving & Dancing, Exploring & Playing. Invitations to engage with sound are planned for every day and singing is integrated throughout the day. Each week there is a focused taught music session.
- KS1 music turns musical play into playing musically. Pupils in KS1 are taught by class teachers so aspects of learning can be revisited throughout the week. Planning is written by the music specialist and class teachers are supported with coaching throughout each unit. This forms part of the monitoring process.
- KS2 music continues to build learning in small, incremental steps. Pupils develop their playing with increasing accuracy, fluency, control and expression. Listening develops aural memory and children develop an understanding of the history of music by using the learning timeline to place and sequence pieces, spotting links between them and seeing the history of music develop.

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.

Our pupils can take part in private lessons with two visiting music teachers. This is paid for by parents and carers. The children can learn to play the drums, guitar, piano and recorder. Lessons take place in the Boyles Building. Children can also work towards preparing for their musical examinations. The visiting music specialists provide excellent tuition for music theory and performance.

We have a wide variety of clubs that children can take part in to widen their musical skills and knowledge such as choir, performing arts, and bell ringing. These clubs take place outside of curriculum hours. It is free to join our clubs (led by school staff) and children are encouraged to sign up each term to try something new.

Children are able to practice their musical instruments at playtimes and lunchtimes. We enable children to rehearse for performances and examinations, when appropriate, throughout the school day.

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.

At St Andrew's, we plan our musical opportunities in advance, and they can be found on our yearly parent calendar. We place huge importance on the significant role music and the arts has on young people and afford our children many opportunities throughout the year.

The children have the opportunity to sing and perform in:

- Collective Worship
- Sing Up
- Church services
- Music lessons
- Visiting theatre company (pantomime)
- Performing Arts Club
- Choir
- Christmas events
- Harvest events
- Easter events
- End of Year/Y6 leavers service
- Visit Sherborne Girls School to watch their productions
- Visit the cinema to watch performances
- Singing Day at Leweston School

Many of these events/opportunities are free and parents do not incur a charge for their child participating. Where there is a cost, we ensure that it is modest. Our PFTA often fully or partially subsidise the entry, ticket or coach costs. If a child is eligible for Pupil Premium, we use the funding to ensure any financial barriers do not stop them from accessing the same level of provision.

Children in Y4 take part in music lessons with our visiting music practitioners from Dorset Music Service. They have previously learnt Samba drumming and Ukelele. There is no cost to families for their child's participation.

In the future

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

In the next academic year, we plan to develop our links with the secondary schools to further support our music teaching, learning and performance opportunities.

Teachers and support staff are planning educational trips that widen our children's musical opportunities i.e. visit the Bristol Hippodrome to see a 'West End' performance.

Leaders are working with the local vicar to continue to develop our 'Worship through Singing'.

Continue to signpost external family events to support parents with musical learning.

Find opportunities to perform within the community, invite community members in to perform to our children.

Reception and Nursery 'Rhyme Time' sessions in the Autumn term will continue.

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.

Useful links:

Dorset Music Service: [Dorset Music Service - Dorset Council](#)

Sing up: [Sing Up - Love learning, start singing](#)