

Music development plan summary: Saint Charles' Catholic Voluntary Academy

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025/26
Date this summary was published	1/10/2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	1/9/2026
Name of the school music lead	Claire Maher
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Leicestershire Music Hb

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.

The St Charles' music curriculum is published on our website and can be found here: [Music - St Charles Catholic Primary Voluntary Academy – Measham \(st-charles.leics.sch.uk\)](https://www.st-charles.leics.sch.uk)

- The St Charles music curriculum is based on the National Curriculum and we use a scheme called music express to deliver lessons. Music express is matched to the NC and covers all of the intentions of the MMC.
- In all year groups, children are taught to use and develop their singing voices, beginning in EYFS. Children use body percussion and whole-body actions to develop their sense of rhythm and timing. Children learn to handle and play a wide variety of instruments including tuned and untuned percussion. They spend time composing their own music in addition to rehearsing and performing music they are taught. Children are introduced to a wide variety of musical notation, progressing to staff notation by the end of Key Stage 2. Children in Year 6 learn to play the recorder.

- The music express scheme is fully inclusive and where adaptations may need to be made for children with SEND they are planned for. Music is commonly a subject where children with SEND find they may flourish and gain a great deal from their experience.
- St Charles' works with the Leicestershire Music Hub where appropriate for our pupils.
- Curriculum time is timetabled weekly for all pupils and happens all year round. Timings are as follows:
 - EYFS – 1 hour timetabled music lessons weekly alongside other opportunities throughout the curriculum.
 - Year 1 – 45 minutes timetabled music lesson weekly
 - Year 2 – 45 minutes timetabled music lesson weekly
 - Year 3 – 35 minutes timetables music lesson weekly
 - Year 4 – 35 minutes timetables music lesson weekly
 - Year 5 – 35 minutes timetables music lesson weekly
 - Year 6 – 35 minutes timetables music lesson weekly
- In addition, we have whole school hymn practices half termly (or more often if we have an event or performance coming up).

Part B: Extra-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.

Pupils in Key Stage 2 are invited to join the choir which runs after school during the Advent term. This is open to all students free of charge.

Around 20 pupils from the choir will have the opportunity to sing at the Catholic Schools' Carol Concert at De Montfort Hall in December. This is an event for Catholic Schools across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland that is organised and raises funds for a local charity (Menphys). Pupils sing a song with another school (St Clare's, Coalville), and as part of a massed choir. They sing some songs in parts. A charge is made for the coach to the rehearsal day but this is waived for PP pupils.

Pupils in Key Stage 2 will learn the material for the Big Sing Concert in March (also at De Montfort Hall). These songs have been developed by the Loughborough Schools Foundation on the theme of adventurers and explorers and are either in unison or in parts with a variety of time signatures, tempos and styles. There is also a poetry and art competition covering the explorers theme which any pupil can enter. There is no charge for children to participate but parents must transport the children and can attend the concert for a small charge (£5).

Connected to the Big Sing, the children will be able to participate in a related workshop in school. This is a free opportunity.

No cost is connected with the children in Year 6 learning to play the recorder. It is open to all children and they can take their instrument home to practise during this time.

When school receive information about free events organised by Leicestershire Music Hub these are passed onto all parents via the school newsletter.

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.

- All children sing in whole school assemblies twice each week.
- Children may sing as part of their class collective worship, which the pupils will lead.
- Children will sing during Mass both at school and at Our Lady of Lourdes, Ashby.
- Pupils in all year groups are given the opportunity to sing at the Measham Christmas festival. This is open to all students at no cost.
- Pupils in Key Stage 1 perform a nativity at the end of the Advent Term.
- Pupils in Key Stage 2 perform for their parents at a Christmas concert. This is timetabled twice during the run up to Christmas so that as many parents as possible can attend.
- Some children will attend musical theatre club after school and perform a show for parents.
- All pupils will attend a pantomime at least once during their time at St Charles'.

In the future

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

- During this academic year we are investigating the possibility of running individual or group instrumental lessons in school. This will have to be organised by an outside provider and paid for by parents., We will consider using PP budget to support those PP children who would like to attend.
- We continue to explore funding for music which was recently used to purchase headphones for the keyboards.

