

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School Music Development Plan 2026 - 2027

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026/2027
Date this summary was published	31.10.26
Date this summary will be reviewed	21.6.27
Name of the school music lead	Anna Drumm
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Tees Valley Music Service
Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place)	Rocksteady Middlesbrough Diocese Liturgical Singing

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.

https://staugustines.npcat.org.uk/curriculum-overview/

Children at St Augustine's receive one hour of music each week, which includes a music lesson in class, two singing assemblies, and, for Key Stage 2, an additional liturgical singing lesson.

In the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), children engage in singing nursery rhymes, explore musical patterns, and develop their listening skills through play and interactions with adults. They participate in a variety of musical activities that encourage creativity, rhythm, and movement, fostering a love for music from a young age. This foundational stage emphasises active participation and exploration, allowing children to express themselves through sound and song.

Students with special educational needs (SEN) are supported across the school through various strategies, including visual aids, adapted tasks (such as chunked instructions and closed captions), and mixed-ability groupings. These approaches ensure that all students can fully engage in music lessons and benefit from the rich musical experiences we provide.

In Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2, we follow the CUSP music curriculum. Our liturgical singing lead provides instruction on singing skills and knowledge for Years 3 to 5. Teachers support the learning of singing skills by completing vocabulary and knowledge activities linked to these units and by practising our weekly hymns in class for the singing assemblies.

Teachers in Years 1 and 2 deliver both singing and instrumental units, giving children the opportunity to learn to play both untuned and tuned instruments while beginning to represent sounds and compose music. In Key Stage 2, students can learn a range of instruments, including the glockenspiel, ukulele, steel pans, and keyboard. The Tees Valley Music Service (TVMS) provides specialist ukulele lessons for Years 5 and 6, while Year 4 participates in a steel pan workshop.

The development of singing skills and knowledge is further supported through our annual nativities, and Year 6 prepares and performs an end-of-year play. Teachers incorporate key skills and knowledge into these performances, such as singing in rounds and including harmonies.

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.

At our primary school, we provide various opportunities for pupils to engage in music beyond the core curriculum, allowing them to sing and play instruments outside of lesson time. For instance, some pupils benefit from violin lessons delivered by TVMS, which are available for a fee. Additionally, Rocksteady offers programmes where students learn to play an instrument and perform in a band, with some paid bursary places funded by the school, culminating in a termly performance. Our choir, open to Key Stage 2 students and including Year 2 in the summer term, also performs regularly at the end of each term. Furthermore, Year 6 students can showcase their skills through the Music Mark Award, where they learn the ukulele with TVMS. We also facilitate practice sessions for selected pupils during lunchtime, providing a space for children to rehearse guitar, ukulele, or singing. These initiatives not only enhance their musical abilities but also foster a sense of community and creativity within our school.

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.

Our students have the opportunity to engage in a range of enriching musical experiences. These events are not only entertaining but also offer significant educational benefits. Attending a yearly pantomime, for instance, allows students to experience live theatre in a fun and interactive way, enhancing their listening and communication skills, as well as sparking their imagination through storytelling and music.

We prioritise enriching musical experiences for our pupils. For example, in previous years our Year 5 students attended a performance of Alice in Wonderland at a London ballet theatre, where they sat in the front row directly above the orchestra pit. This unique cultural opportunity broadened their exposure to professional theatre, nurtured their appreciation for the arts, fostered creativity, and encouraged them to think critically about the performance's themes and characters.

Additionally, Amelia Coburn's live singing performance to the pupils offered a more personal and relatable experience. Hearing a local singer may have motivated the children to explore their own musical talents. These kinds of experiences can also

boost confidence, improve listening and concentration skills, and inspire an emotional connection to music.

https://www.facebook.com/100064025139930/videos/1458917051472582

Overall, these musical activities contribute to students' holistic development, encouraging creativity, building confidence, and fostering an early love for the arts.

In the Future

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

This year, we aim to enrich our students' musical education by building on the successes of our existing programs, including the KS2 choir, and expanding opportunities for younger pupils. We are excited to develop a KS1 choir, providing a platform for younger children to discover their voices, learn musical skills, and gain confidence in group performances.
To support this, we will ensure that there are dedicated spaces for rehearsals and individual practice, allowing all students the opportunity to refine their musical talents in a focused setting.
Additionally, we will strengthen our partnership with Middlesbrough Town Hall, which regularly hosts musical shows designed to offer rich cultural experiences. Our pupils will have the chance to attend performances there, as well as participate in live performances within this grand venue. Engaging with a formal musical setting like the Town Hall will deepen their cultural awareness, inspire a greater appreciation for live music, and provide invaluable performance experience. Through these initiatives, we hope to foster a lasting love for music in our students and the confidence to perform in front of an audience.

Further information

We are committed to providing all students with enriching musical experiences that will foster their talents, boost their confidence, and deepen their cultural appreciation. By offering opportunities such as choir participation, individual practice, and live performances, we aim to enhance our already well-rounded educational system. These experiences will not only develop their musical abilities but also support their overall academic and social growth, helping to build essential life skills such as discipline, perseverance, and self-expression.