

# Holy Family Catholic Primary School, New Springs

## Mission Statement

We are a caring family, we pray, learn and grow together

## Music Development Plan

### Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2025 – 2026
Date this summary was published	September 2025
Date this summary will be reviewed	July 2026
Name of the school music lead	Miss Palmer and Mrs Lord
Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different)	
Name of local music hub	Wigan 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.

### 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.

Music is taught weekly in every class as part of a two-year rolling programme, aligned with the Model Music Curriculum (March 2021). A detailed curriculum overview is available on our school website. Lesson durations are 1 hour for Key Stage 1 and 45 minutes for Key Stage 2.

To enrich musical learning, pupils also take part in weekly whole-school singing assemblies. These are led by teaching staff, providing an opportunity for both pupil engagement and staff professional development. The sessions feature a variety of traditional and contemporary hymns and songs that reflect the liturgical year.

In the Early Years, music is delivered through a holistic approach, embedded as a core element of early childhood development. Children have regular opportunities to explore music independently through access to a wide range of high-quality instruments, both in the continuous provision and in the EYFS outdoor area. These open-ended experiences allow children to make their own creative choices in sound and play. In addition, a focused, teacher-led music session is delivered each week to build foundational musical skills.

Music at our school is fully inclusive and accessible to all pupils.

As part of the **Wider Opportunities** programme, all pupils in Years 4 and 5 learn a musical instrument through whole-class ensemble teaching, delivered by a specialist from Wigan Music Service. Weekly lessons culminate in three performances throughout the academic year, giving pupils the chance to showcase their progress. Instruments are provided free of charge, with no insurance costs, to ensure every child can take part. Children are also encouraged to practise at home to reinforce their learning.

Performance is an important aspect of our music curriculum. Pupils regularly share their musical achievements during assemblies and class performances, helping to build confidence and a sense of celebration around music.

Music is monitored and assessed in line with other foundation subjects. Action plans are developed and reviewed annually to ensure high standards and a strong sense of enjoyment are maintained. Pupil voice plays a key role in shaping the direction of music provision across the 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.

Children have the opportunity to explore and learn a wide range of musical instruments, including vocal training, under the guidance of a specialist music teacher. While individual and small group lessons are typically funded by parents, we offer support for children eligible for Pupil Premium Funding to ensure equal access to these opportunities.

Throughout the year, our teaching staff run a variety of music-based after-school clubs, such as musical theatre and choir, which are open to children of all skill levels. These activities lead to exciting performances, including our annual productions, nativity plays, and community singing events, allowing every child to showcase their talents and grow in confidence.

## 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 music development plan provides a rich variety of opportunities for pupils to develop and showcase their musical talents. Pupil leadership groups actively participate in Christmas Carol concerts held at local care homes, partner high schools, and community venues. EYFS and KS1 children collaborate to perform a traditional Nativity, fostering early performance experience and teamwork. Year 5 and 6 pupils take pride in participating in a high-quality end-of-year production that highlights and builds on their musical learning.

To broaden children's musical horizons, all pupils have access to live musical performances in school. We regularly host "Music Alive" – a visiting ensemble of music specialists – who introduce children to a wide range of instruments and musical styles. As part of our transition strategy and to strengthen links with local high schools, Year 5 pupils are invited to attend end-of-year musical productions at the secondary level. To further support curriculum learning, pupils also attend professional theatre performances, enriching their understanding of music in a dramatic context.

## In the future

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

We aim to enrich students' cultural capital through live performances, including concerts and a diverse range of musical genres. The music provision will be enhanced by expanding our existing music clubs and growing the school choir to be more inclusive and vibrant. We will increase performance opportunities for young musicians throughout the academic year, allowing them to showcase their talents in a variety of settings. Additionally, we are committed to improving access and engagement in extracurricular music activities, with a particular focus on supporting Pupil Premium (PP) and SEND students.