# Music development plan summary: St Gerard’s Catholic Primary and Nursery School

## Overview

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| Detail | Information |
| Academic year that this summary covers | 2024-2025 |
| Date this summary was published | September 2024 |
| Date this summary will be reviewed | September 2025 |
| Name of the school music lead | Emma McCook |
| Name of school leadership team member with responsibility for music (if different) | Jane Farrell |
| Name of local music hub | Accent Music Hub |
| Name of other music education organisation(s) (if partnership in place) | MYGUK |

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.

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| The music curriculum at St. Gerard’s is outlined within our Music Progression Map published on our website.  <https://www.st-gerards.halton.sch.uk/page/music/110877>  Our school uses the National Curriculum descriptors for music as the basis for its curriculum planning. We have adapted the national scheme so that the topics that the children study in music build upon prior learning.  Through the Charanga music programme, children across all stages in our school have opportunities to sing and play a range of instruments. These are embedded within range of historical periods, genres and cultures.  In EYFS, we relate the musical aspects of the children’s work to the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals (ELGs). Children have opportunities to perform counting songs, as well as songs from different cultures.  In KS1, children focus on recall and remembering short songs and sequences and patterns of sounds. Children develop their early knowledge and understanding of musical instruments by using a variety of percussion instruments, exploring their unique sounds.  In KS2, children use their knowledge of rhythm and pulse to create and perform short musical pieces and songs, in small groups or as a larger ensemble. Children incorporate musical instruments into their performance by making appropriate choices to enhance their pieces.  The school uses their link with Accent Music Hub to enhance the curriculum through a wide range of additional music opportunities, which further develop their understanding of music within a variety cultures and genres. |

## 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.

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| In addition to the delivery of the Music curriculum, St. Gerard’s offer a range of extra-curricular opportunities.  Children within KS1 and KS2 (Years 2 – 6) are offered small group (groups of 3 or 4) music tuition for guitar. These sessions are on a weekly basis through the year, delivered by MYGUK. Parents of children who attend pay this tuition on a termly basis.  Children within KS2 can also take part in a group vocal ensemble, focusing within the area of musical theatre. This session runs on a weekly basis, after-school, delivered by MYGUK. Parents of children who attend pay this tuition on a termly basis.  Throughout the year, children can join the St.Gerard’s Christmas Choir, led by the Music lead. Choir rehearsals take place at lunchtimes during the Autumn term. The choir have made strong community links with local supermarkets, which enable the school to perform to larger audiences during the festive period.  Through our local music hub, children take part in a range of musical workshops which extend their knowledge and awareness of music from a variety of cultures and backgrounds across the world. |

## 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.

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| Children at St. Gerard’s take part in a wide variety of musical experiences throughout the academic year.  Autumn Term:  Children in KS2 will take part and perform a musical in the lead up to Christmas. As well as this, the annual Christmas Carol Service provides an opportunity for the whole of KS2 to join and create a large ensemble celebrating advent.  Christmas Choir club will have opportunities to strengthen links within the community by performing at local supermarket and care homes.  Children in Year 3 and 4 will attend the Empire Theatre to watch Chitty Chitty Bang Bang in October, enabling these classes to experience elements of performing arts on a larger scale.  Spring Term:  In KS2, children will take part in the annual Spring Celebration at St. Peter and Paul’s Catholic College in March, alongside a number of local primary schools in the area.  Year 5 will take part in the Shakespeare Project in March, which links a variety of aspects from musical theatre together. Children will have opportunities to perform the work of William Shakespeare, as well as incorporating the elements of sound and lighting to enhance the production.  Summer Term:  In July, Children in KS1 take part in the annual Children of Halton Infant Music Festival at Wade Deacon. This enables the children to take part in a large vocal ensemble alongside a number of school within the local area. |

## In the future

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

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| St Gerard’s are planning to make adaptations and changes to a number of elements within the Music curriculum over the subsequent years.   * The establishment of an annual celebration of the Arts, including opportunities for children to display drama and music within the school. * The development of the school choir, throughout the academic year, who perform on a number of occasions and events. * The aim to strengthen musical opportunities for children in EYFS and KS1 through school visits and extra-curricular musical experiences to enhance their learning and understanding. * The development of a space within school to enable children to practice their vocal or instrument skills, in addition to their tuition sessions. |